

# AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

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Dr. Johann Dzierzon  
emacht. Pfarrer.

# American Bee Journal



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

**American Bee Journal**

1st Nat'l Bank Bldg. Hamilton, Illinois

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# American Bee Journal

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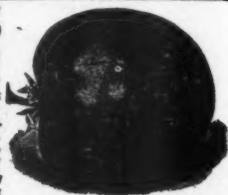
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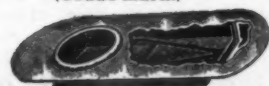
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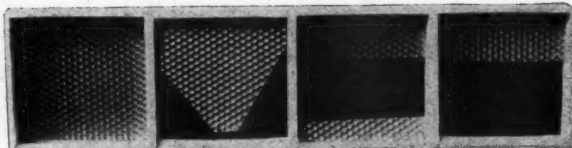
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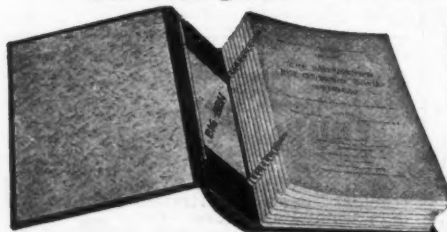
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C. P. DADANT, Editor.  
DR. C. C. MILLER, Associate Editor.

HAMILTON, ILL., DECEMBER, 1913

Vol. LIII.—No. 12

## EDITORIAL COMMENTS

### Our Frontispiece

Our frontispiece is a reduced cut of the famous Dzierzon, the discoverer of parthenogenesis, with his autograph. This was mentioned in our October number, page 344.

### Wonderful Crop at Dr. Miller's

The subscribers will read with great interest the marvelous report of Dr. C. C. Miller's honey crop for 1913, given by Miss Wilson in the "Sisters' Department." This report shows what good management, careful selection, a good crop and a good location all combined can do. At 15 cents per section, or \$1.80 per 12-pound case, the returns would be \$39.97 per colony. In view of the fact that Dr. Miller has had to fight European foul brood, we believe this report should cheer up the discouraged ones who wonder whether it is worth while to keep bees when disease is in the land.

### The Bigelow Swarming Theory

The article in the October number, by our good friend Mr. Bigelow, has brought a flood of protests, only a few of which were published. It is gratifying to see how quickly practical apiarists come to the rescue, when attempts are made to wreck some proven facts in natural history. Yet in some cases wrong theories are permitted to float a long time before they are crushed. During our trip abroad, we had quite a heated discussion with an active, practical apiarist who had propounded

the idea, in print, that the Dzierzon theory was wrong, because in four different instances he had noticed drone-brood around a queen-cell. He was sure that the bees could change the sex by feeding a different food, and that they had changed the sex of those larvæ around each cell, in order to have drones to fertilize those queens when they hatched. He held to this tenaciously, and was only vanquished when his attention was called to the fact which he could not contradict, that those drones, being of the same age as the queen, would hatch so much later than she; that she would be already mated when they came out of their cell.

Another man, who was tearing down all the text-books by asserting that wax costs the bees only a pound or two of honey for each pound of wax, and that he had proven it by the financial profits which he had reaped, turned out to be a financial failure, seeking for investors.

Mr. Bigelow is good-natured, and in good faith, but he will have to give up that theory of plurality of queens in the first swarms, just as the followers of Alexander had to give up the attempt at keeping several laying queens in each colony during the season. The text-books are all right yet.

Since writing the above, we have received a letter from Mr. Bigelow, insisting on the "purpose of the drone in the natural swarm." We do not believe that it is necessary to show that nature has a purpose in inducing the

drone to follow the swarm, any more than in permitting him to join any strong colony to which he is attracted, by the noise they make. Many things in nature have no plausible purpose, as, for instance, the nipples on a man's breast. But Dr. Miller sends us the following which would perhaps satisfy those who, like Mr. Bigelow, want to see a purpose in every action, in every habit of the insects:

On the whole it would be a good thing for all beekeepers if they could have at least a little of Dr. Bigelow's enthusiastic search for reasons, even in cases where there's no money in it. Life would be broader and more worth the living. It's a sad thing for all of us when we lose the spirit of the child who pulls the watch to pieces to find what makes the wheels go 'round.

In the present instance, Dr. Bigelow sees drones in a swarm, recalls nothing said about it in bee literature, and then reasons something after the following fashion: The office of drones is to mate with virgins; drones are found in a swarm; ergo, there must be virgins in the swarm.

At the present day it is the practice quite generally to prevent after-swarms, so almost every swarm is a prime swarm, having a laying queen. We all know that there are virgins in after-swarms, the question is whether there are any in prime swarms. For many years it has been my practice to scrutinize closely every colony with a laying queen that by any reasonable possibility might be expected to swarm, and that about once every 10 days for about 3 months' time. The object of the scrutiny was to discover and destroy all queen-cells. If virgins go with prime swarms, I should among those thousands of cases have found at least a few cases in which vacated cells showed that virgins had emerged before the issuing of a swarm. I never found one.

Another thing already mentioned by another writer. During nearly all of my bee-keeping experience I have kept my queens clipped. In spite of all my efforts to the contrary, I have had many swarms to issue. They would



## American Bee Journal

issue just the same as if the queens could fly, but they would always return to the hive, or to some other hive, after flying about for a short time, possibly after remaining clustered upon a tree for a short time. I hardly need to waste words to argue that no such swarm would return if a virgin with perfect wings were present.

In my former article I said I didn't know why drones should go with a prime swarm. I didn't; but before I was through writing there occurred to me a possible reason, which I offered in a hesitating way. Having had time to think it over more fully, I am now prepared to repeat it with confidence. I believe drones a necessity for most prime swarms, and that their absence would bring disaster. Of course, drones of neighboring colonies would answer every purpose, but nature doesn't take any chances as to there being any neighboring colonies.

In the normal course of affairs every laying queen is superseded by the bees. Close observation shows that in nearly all cases preparation for this superseding occurs after swarming; in many cases very shortly after swarming; in some cases immediately after. Now let us do a little figuring. When an egg is placed in a queen-cell a virgin emerges from the cell in about 15 days, and is ready for the drone about 5 days later; thus making 20 days from the laying of the egg to mating. A drone emerges in 24 days from the laying of the egg. I don't know how old the drone must be before he is ready for service, but if memory serves it is estimated to be when he is 10 days old. To be on the safe side let us call it 5. That makes 29 days from laying of egg to mating. When a swarm is hived and has its combs to build, it is well known that no drone-comb will be built at first, only worker-comb. So long as the queen keeps pace with the comb-builders, the bees will continue the worker-comb, and when they do begin to build drone-comb it will be to fill it with honey. Later on may come the drone-eggs, if indeed they come at all that year. It will probably be a conservative statement to say that no drone-eggs may be expected generally until 3 weeks after the hiving of the swarm. Add that 3 weeks to the 29 days we already have, and we have 50 days from the time the swarm is hived until there are drones ready for mating.

When the bees, making their preparations for swarming, consult Dame Nature as to what shall be done about the matter of drones, the old lady will say: "Well, eggs may be laid in queen-cells anywhere from 5 to 25 days after settling in the new home, and 20 days later drones will be needed for mating; in other words, they will be needed somewhere from 25 to 45 days after swarming. But they will not be ready until 50 days after that time. So you would be 5 to 25 days short if you depend upon rearing drones after being hived. That won't do. Don't take any chances. There are plenty of drones here in the hive; take 'em along, and make sure." And take 'em along they do. And that's the *why* of drones going with swarms, no matter whether they come early or late in the season. In the case of after-swarms, the matter

is still simpler. A virgin that goes with the swarm must mate at once, so there's no other way but for drones to go with the swarm.

### Typographical Error

On page 367, speaking of the peasants of Gascony who brimstone a part of their bees every fall, I am made to say that "each brimstoned colony brings a return of about \$20." For fear that some of our readers may want to emigrate to Gascony to reap such a lucrative harvest, I hasten to say that the figure should be \$2 instead of \$20; that is to say, the contents of the basket hive which they call a "bournac," bring them about 4 cents per pound, more or less according to the "fatness" of the contents.

### The Former Editor a Popular Man

From divers editorials published in the papers of the Northwest, it appears that our former editor-in-chief, George W. York, is a very popular man in the city of his choice, as well as in the Northwest generally. He was selected as judge of the honey exhibit of the Interstate Fair at Spokane, Wash. He was also elected secretary of the Sandpoint, Idaho, Commercial Club and of the Sandpoint Chautauqua Association for 1914.

### Differences in Location

Our good, practical apiarist and friend, Mr. Wilder, has an article in this issue entitled, "Not Much Difference in Locations." We believe it is necessary to underline the fact that he is writing this from a southern State, in a part of the country where there is probably but little difference between one spot and another. But we should not take this as typical of the entire country. There are spots in the United States where bees could not make enough to live, even in isolated colonies. There are other spots where it is almost impossible to overstock the region.

In most of our northern States the most desirable locations are probably those in which pastures are numerous. The white clover is the main resource. There are other spots where a variety of plants or trees give a sufficient harvest. In alfalfa regions many more colonies may be kept to the square mile than in corn-growing regions. It is necessary to study the flora of the locality, and to have some actual experience with the honey crops to pass an opinion. Keeping bees as we have done for years, in six or eight different spots, we have discovered that crops

vary much more than we thought, and some spots are constantly ahead of the others.

In most localities of our Mississippi Valley, bees may be kept profitably. But some localities will sustain 100 colonies or more, with good results, while other fields, only a few miles away, may not sustain more than 40 or 50 with as much profit. Study the conditions, and do not forget that bees *usually* do not forage farther than a mile or two away from home. The exceptions only prove the rule.

### Dequeening for European Foul Brood

In the Beekeepers' Review, page 353, J. M. Buchanan, Tennessee State Inspector, says:

"In the treatment of European foul brood by requeening, Dr. Miller recommends letting the colony remain queenless for two or three weeks before introducing the new queen. Perhaps this is best, as it gives the bees more time to make a thorough job of cleaning up. I know of one apiary in which there were perhaps 50 colonies of hybrids, most of them badly affected with European foul brood. No treatment was given them except that the queens were removed and young golden Italian queens introduced at once. By the next season at least 90 percent of these colonies had cleaned up and were in a healthy condition."

In the case mentioned, where there were 90 percent of cures by the mere change of queens, it will likely be understood generally that the change to different and more resistant stock was accountable for the result. Possibly; but there is another factor that may have played no small part. When an old queen is replaced by a new one, the new one does not begin laying the very minute the old one stops laying. Indeed, it may be considered successful introduction if the new one gets to laying within three days after the dethronement of her predecessor. That break in brood-rearing is the factor meant. Until a better theory is advanced, it is the belief of the writer that the disease in a hive is *generally* perpetuated by the nurse bees feeding the young larvæ with the juices of larvæ that have just died from the disease, and that very soon after the death of such larvæ—possibly within two or three days—their juices become so offensive that they are no longer sucked by the nurses. According to that theory, if there be a break of two or three days in laying, there will be a corresponding break in the feeding, which might go a long way toward the discontinuance of the disease.

Mr. Buchanan seems to have my rec-



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ommendation somewhat mixed with the Alexander treatment of European foul brood. Mr. Alexander removed the old queen, and 20 days later gave a ripe queen-cell or a virgin just hatched. In attempting to follow his plan I made the blunder of not noticing that a virgin was to be introduced, but introduced a laying queen. Afterward I changed to the plan of introducing a virgin immediately upon the removal of the old queen. I believe that is better than to wait 10 days later and introduce a laying queen, since in that 10 days of waiting the bees are in a more or less discouraged condition, while with a virgin present they are stimulated to activity in cleaning up the cells in preparation for her laying.

This plan I still think a good one in case the queen is poor. Mr. Alexander said the queen of a diseased colony was generally so poor she was not worth saving. I believe this is true where the colony is badly diseased. But in mild cases the queen does not seem to be injured to any appreciable extent. So in such cases I merely cage the queen between the combs or at the entrance for a week or ten days. Indeed I have not killed a queen in any case the past season. But no case

was allowed to get bad. If a single diseased cell was found—and it is not a very difficult thing to spot a single bad cell in a whole hive—that colony was at once treated.

As the queen of any diseased colony was caged at the beginning of the harvest, two birds were killed with one stone. For that caging of the queen for ten days put out of the bees' heads any foolish notion they have had about swarming. And I had colonies so treated that went above the average in the amount of honey they yielded.

In at least one case I put all the brood in an upper story above an excluder, leaving the queen in the lower story without any brood. It worked all right. This plan has the advantage that there is little or no break in brood-rearing. It works all right for extracted honey, but does not answer well for comb honey.

So it will be seen that I do not recommend "letting the colony remain queenless for two or three weeks;" and, in fact, do not recommend letting the colony go a day without a queen in the hive, although I do stop brood-rearing for a week or ten days with the queen still in the hive. C. C. M.

you could have seen us. Paul was kept busy slicing rolls and getting out sections.

"I simply made myself into an automatic machine, which put a slice of honey into the sliced roll, handed it out and received the money. For an hour and a half we had a line (we made them line up at the left and move down) about 15 feet long, and it did not break in all that time. I think we averaged about seven sandwiches a minute during that time. But it was hard work."

No man could compete with such work as that. But besides being a very live Yankee, Mr. Latham has had an experience of 20 years at this sort of thing, and knows the ropes thoroughly.

**Exhibits at Illinois State Fair.**—Visitors of the bee and honey exhibit at the Illinois State Fair, this season, state that the exhibits ranked well up to what they have been in previous years. Prizes were awarded to the following Illinois exhibitors in the order named:

A. Coppin, of Wenona.  
C. Becker, of Pleasant Plains.  
Jas. A. Stone, of Springfield.  
W. E. Miller, of Libertyville.  
E. H. Wells, of Libertyville.  
Anthwine Phillips, of Dwight.

The part of the exhibit which attracted the most attention was the live bee demonstration as given by Mr. and Mrs. Coppin. Their demonstration in a cage was excellent, and never failed to draw an interested audience.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS

**California and Northern California Meetings.**—The California State Beekeepers' Association will meet in annual convention in the Y. M. C. A. building in Los Angeles Dec. 9, 10, and 11.

A letter from Alvin L. Heim, secretary of the Northern Association, states that this association will meet at Sacramento Dec. 26 and 27.

**Indiana to Hold Meeting.**—The annual meeting of the Indiana State Beekeepers' Association will be held in the State House in Indianapolis Dec. 3. Every beekeeper is urged to attend.  
G. W. WILLIAMS, Sec.

**Report from New Zealand.**—The New Zealand Farmer reports colonies exceptionally strong in brood and young bees. Drones are beginning to make their appearance in the hives. New Zealand has its spring and summer while we are having our fall and winter.

**Honey Day.**—December 15, has been designated as Honey Day in Indiana

by the Indiana Beekeepers' Association. The day is being given publicity through the local papers in Indiana. Every one is urged to eat a little Indiana honey.

**Washington State Meeting.**—The Washington State Beekeepers' Association will hold their 20th annual convention at North Yakima, Wash., on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 7 and 8, 1914.

A good program is promised, and a surprise is in store for all who attend. A banquet will be served on Thursday.

All beekeepers, whether members of the Association or not, are urged to attend.  
J. B. RUMAGE, Sec.

**Lively Work at a Fair.**—The following is an extract from a private letter from Allen Latham:

"When I got home I had to put in all my time for nearly a week getting ready for the State Fair at Hartford, Conn. There I sold nearly 1000 of my sections, and took \$36 in premiums. Paul and I sold about 6000 honey sandwiches during the week. On the afternoon of the first day, Labor Day, I wish

**Idaho and Oregon Meeting.**—The annual convention of the Southern Idaho and Eastern Oregon Beekeepers' Association will be held at Ontario, Oreg., on Dec. 9. Program is as follows:

Address of Welcome—Pres. A. I. McClanahan.  
"Lessons of Past Season"—J. E. Lyon, A. T. Pennington, Chas. Nelson.  
"Overstocking"—A. I. McClanahan, W. Pennington.  
"Extracting Outfits, Power Driven," etc.—Benj. Paine, H. Crowther.  
"Queen-Rearing"—E. F. Atwater.

### DINNER.

Election of officers.  
"Spring Feeding"—J. R. Marlowe, C. E. Dibble, W. W. Foster.  
"Making Foundation"—M. Townsend.  
Discussions.

R. D. BRADSHAW, Sec.

**Bee Meetings.**—Following is a list of the bee meetings to occur within the next few months, with date and place of meeting. Other meetings will be added as the dates reach us:

New York State Association of Beekeepers, Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 2 and 3.  
Minnesota State Beekeepers' Association, Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 3 and 4.

Eastern Illinois Association, St. Anne, Ill., Dec. 8 and 9.

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Iowa State Beekeepers' Association, Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 10, 11, and 12.  
Indiana State Association, Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 3.

California State Beekeepers' Association, Los Angeles, Calif., Dec. 9, 10, and 11.

Southern Idaho and Eastern Oregon Beekeepers' Association, Ontario, Oreg., Dec. 9.

Missouri State Beekeepers' Association, Excelsior Springs, Mo., Dec. 16 and 17.

Chicago - Northwestern Beekeepers' Association, Chicago, Dec. 17 and 18.

Northern California Association, Sacramento, Calif., Dec. 26 and 27.

Washington State Beekeepers' Association, North Yakima, Wash., Jan. 7 and 8, 1914.

Ohio State Beekeepers' Association, Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 14 and 15, 1914.

Wisconsin State Beekeepers' Association, Madison, Wis., Feb. 3 and 4.

**Short Course in Beekeeping.**—The Ontario Agricultural College offers a two-weeks' course in bee-keeping, beginning Jan. 13 and ending Jan. 24. The following subjects will be studied: "Care and management," "Swarming," "Queen-rearing," "Diseases and treatment," "Quality of honey," "Marketing," etc. The course will be under the direct supervision of Morley Pettit.

**Decoy Hive.**—The following questions on decoy hives were asked of Dr. Bonney, and he has been kind enough to answer them through the columns of the Bee Journal:

1. Will strips of foundation do as well as "old comb for the decoy hive?"
2. Is the decoy hive worth while in a locality where wild bees are not especially plentiful?
3. Would a huckleberry pasture, with high bushes and a good growth of all kinds of trees, form too thick a growth to place a decoy hive?
4. Would it be worth while where there is a very good supply of evergreen trees?
5. Is there any good way to place the decoy hives so that bees will find them and people not see them?

The reason I ask some of these questions is because I know a man out in the country who keeps bees in old box-hives. Swarms get away each year. He gets little if any honey, and doesn't care as long as he is at no expense. There have been those in times past who put up boxes to catch bees not far from his farm. He took pains to find them and blow them to pieces with a gun.

I am a law-abiding citizen, and do not mean to steal from any man, but if I could get some of his "escaping swarms" they would be a great deal of help to me, instead of eventually being the prey of the bee hunter who destroys all. There is a great deal of bee hunting done here in Rhode Island, the most successful ones locating from 10 to 12 in a season.

The bee-inspector tells me that there



HOME APIARY OF I. E. PYLES, OF PUTNAM, ILL.—MR. PYLES HAULS IN ALL "CRIPPLED" HIVES FROM HIS OUT-APIARIES SO THAT HE MAY REPAIR THEM AT HOME.

are about 400 individuals in this State that have one colony or more. But strange to say, the great majority are still in the "old-fashioned box-hives, and bee-keeping is looked upon as a joke. I do not think there are more than 24 successful beekeepers in the whole State." GARDNER B. WILLIS, Providence, R. I.

## ANSWERS.

1. Strips of foundation would be of no use in a decoy hive. It is the smell of the old comb that would attract the bees, if anything. Personally I do not care for the comb, as my observation has been that the bees go as well into an empty box. However, they do go to a house which is full of comb and honey, and a large amount of comb may be an attraction.

2. Yes, a decoy hive is valuable where wild bees are not especially plentiful, for bees come a long distance to a box. You may know that it is pretty well established that bees send out scouts to find a new home when ready to swarm, and sometimes bees will go many miles, stopping, I suppose, on the way to take a rest. I think the small trunk of a tree, hollow, would make an ideal decoy hive, and would be apt to catch a swarm where bees are seldom seen.

3. No; the bees will find a home in any kind of a growth of timber.

4. I see no reason why bees should not seek a cavity in an evergreen tree, and so find a decoy hive.

5. I would make decoy hives of round boxes covered with bark, so that your farmer would have trouble to find them, I think. However, it is not necessary to go near his place to catch his bees, even if he were able to identify them, for they are apt to go 20 miles before they stop the second time. Unless he follows them and recovers them he loses all title to them. They belong to any one who hives them: Just put up your decoy hives where you know they will not be disturbed, as on the farm of a friendly farmer, your own yard, or, if in town, on top of your house, in a

shade. You will catch bees in proportion to the number of hives you have out.

**Minnesota Meeting.**—Following is a program of the Minnesota Beekeepers' meeting which is to be held in Minneapolis Dec. 3 and 4:

## WEDNESDAY FORENOON.

- 9:00—Hour for getting acquainted and "seeing the Treasurer."
- 10:00—President's address.
- 10:30—"How My Bees Produced 30 Tons of Honey this Season"—E. L. Hofmann, of Janesville.
- 11:30—"Sweet Clover as a Honey Producer"—R. F. Hall, of New Auburn.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

- 1:30—"Carniolans vs. Italians"—Rev. Francis Jager, St. Bonifacius.
- 2:30—"The Honey-Producing Plants"—Prof. Edwin J. Freeman, of the State Farm School.
- 3:30—Question Box.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING.

- 8:00—Popular Program—Rev. Francis Jager in charge.

## THURSDAY FORENOON.

- 9:00—"Wintering Bees"—Dr. L. D. Leonard, of Minneapolis.
- 10:00—"Why We Use Smoke on Bees"—Hamlin V. Poore, of Bird Island.
- 11:00—"Suggestion in Regard to Organizing a Honey Exchange"—L. F. Sampson, of Excelsior.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

- 1:30—Report on State Fair—Scott LaMont, of Park Rapids, Superintendent of Apiary Department.
- 2:00—Report of the Inspector of Apiaries—J. A. Holmberg, of St. Paul.
- 2:30—Business Session—Election of Officers.

**England Short of Honey.**—"Honey Shortage in England" is the title of a report by Vice Consul Loop in London, writing for the Daily Consular Reports. The reason for the shortage is attributed to the prevalence of Isle of Wight disease throughout the country, which has in many instances wiped out whole apiaries. Most of the honey imported by England comes from the British West Indies with the United



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States second.

In another report in the same pamphlet mention is made of the success of an Australian beekeeper in shipping his honey to England. Five tons in the first shipment brought the shipper 7 cents per pound in Sydney, Australia.

**Program of Iowa Meeting.**—The second annual convention of the Iowa Beekeepers' Association will be held in Des Moines Dec. 10, 11, and 12. No progressive Iowa beekeeper should fail to attend this meeting if it is at all possible for him to do so. The Secretary is pleased to be able to submit a rousing program as follows:

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10.

10:00 A. M.—Address of the President—Frank C. Pellett, of Atlantic.  
Report of Secretary—S. W. Snyder, of Center Point.  
Report of Treasurer—C. H. True, of Edgewood.  
Reports of Standing Committee.  
Appointment of Committees.  
1:00 P. M.—"Some Side Lines on the Farm"—J. W. Jarnagin, of Des Moines.  
"Marketing the Crop"—W. P. Southworth, of Sioux City.  
"Beekeeping as a Business"—B. A. Aldrich, of Smithland.  
"Selling Direct to the Consumer"—J. L. Strong, of Clarinda.  
Ladies' informal meeting in separate room in charge of Miss Nina Secor, of Forest City.  
8:00 P. M.—"Beekeeping in Europe"—C. P. Dadant, of Hamilton, Ill.

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11.

9:00 P. M.—Election of officers.  
"Arrangement of Apiary"—C. H. True, of Edgewood.  
"Sweet Clover—What It Will Do for the Farmers and Beekeepers of Iowa"—Frank Coverdale, of Delmar.  
1:00 P. M.—"Beekeeping as a Side Line and the Fun of the Thing"—Hamlin B. Miller, of Marshalltown.  
"Modern Methods of Caring for Extracted Honey"—E. R. Root, of Medina, Ohio.  
8:00 P. M.—"How May We Increase the Consumption of Honey?"—Eugene Secor, of Forest City.  
"Increase"—J. W. Bittenbender, of Knoxville.  
"Advertising"—Dr. A. F. Bonney, of Buck Grove.  
"Comb or Extracted Honey?"—C. L. Pinney, of LeMars.

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12.

9:00 A. M.—"Beekeepers' Legal Status"—Russell E. Ostrus, Attorney for Iowa Beekeepers' Association, of Des Moines.  
"Treatment of Disease"—Edward G. Brown, of Sergeant Bluff.  
"Helps and Hindrances in Dealing with Foul Brood"—J. W. Stine, of Salem.  
1:00 P. M.—Address, Prof. W. J. Kennedy, of Ames.  
"A Season's Work"—F. W. Hall, of Colo.  
Exhibits—R. H. Longworth, of Polk City.

**Chicago-Northwestern Meeting.**—The meeting of the Chicago-Northwestern Beekeepers' Association will be held at Chicago on Dec. 17 and 18 at the Great Northern Hotel, Room L, 36.

The Secretary has arranged a program with papers by several of the leading beekeepers. As this has been a good year, beekeepers should make every effort to attend. Chicago is centrally located, and we should have a good attendance from Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota and Illinois.

A cordial invitation is extended to every one. If you do not receive a card asking you to attend, this notice

will be an invitation.

L. C. DADANT, Sec.

**League Fund Exhausted.**—In September I advertised in all the bee-papers published in the United States and Canada that I would send Honey Booklets to all who sent postage. Soon I was flooded with letters from all over the States and Canada, and several foreign countries, including postage for various sizes of packages. As fast as I received them, I booked every order and began sending them until my 5000 books were gone. I then got another lot, and they were soon gone. I then had to wait for 30,000 more to be printed, and they were delayed two weeks by freight. Over 600 orders for the books came during this delay, some asking for 100 copies, and many wanting more.

The League Fund has been exhausted in printing, postage, drayage, freight and help. I have 245 orders that I cannot supply, and just a sample copy I can send with return postage to each. I am sorry that I cannot supply all orders—and more are coming daily. Certainly the thousands of books I have sent, if placed in the hands of good cooks, will create a great demand for more honey.

I bought these books of the A. I. Root Company, of Medina, Ohio, and I believe you can buy them for \$4.50 per 100 copies. With these orders were reports for 1913, and generally beekeepers were selling most of their honey in home markets. Comb honey at 15 to 23 cents. Extracted at 8 to 10 cents.

I wish you success in wintering your

bees, and hope that 1914 may be your best season.

N. E. FRANCE.

**Missouri State Meeting.**—The annual meeting of the Missouri State Beekeepers' Association will be held Dec. 16 and 17, at Excelsior Springs, Mo. The program follows:

## FIRST DAY, 2:30 P. M.

Appointment of committees and report of Secretary.

Address of President.

8:00 P. M.

Paper—"Beekeeping as a Business"—R. A. Holekamp, of St. Louis.

Address—"The Good Bees Do for Humanity"—Dr. A. D. Wolfe, of Parkville.

Paper—"Beekeeping in Italy and France"—C. P. Dadant, of Hamilton, Ill.

Speech—"Wit and Humor of the Bee and the Beekeeper"—J. T. Martin, of Liberty.

## SECOND DAY—9:00 A. M.

Paper—"Beekeeping in South Missouri and Northern Minnesota"—H. F. Strang, of Cleo.

Address—"How to Avoid Getting into Trouble with Your Neighbor on Account of Your Bees"—M. E. Darby, of Springfield.

Address—"How to Beat 'Em if You Do'"—A. T. Rodman, of Kansas City.

Papers—"Rearing Good Queens"—E. E. Lawrence, of Doniphan, and L. E. Altwein, of St. Joseph.

Address—"Mistakes of an Old Beginner"—Clay Foley, of Missouri City.

Paper—"The Best Way to Increase"—H. C. Gadberry, of Miami.

1:30 P. M.

Address—"A Commission Merchant's Experience in Handling Honey"—C. C. Clemens, of Kansas City.

Address—"Experiences of a Supply Dealer"—C. E. Walker, of Kansas City.

Address—"How to Get a Good Foul Brood Law"—J. W. Rouse, of Mexico.

Paper—"History of the Missouri State Beekeepers' Association"—W. T. Carey, of Wakenda.

J. F. DIEMER, Sec.

## BEE-KEEPING FOR WOMEN

Conducted by MISS EMMA M. WILSON, Marengo, Ill.

### Season at Marengo—The Best Ever

At the opening of the season there were in Dr. Miller's apiary 83 colonies. Of these, 72 were devoted to the production of section honey, leaving 11 for extracting combs. These 11 were mostly the poorer ones. May 12, 2 new colonies were made, and others later on, the season closing with 101 colonies. One of the colonies made May 12, worked sections, making 73, but 72 was the spring count of the comb-honey colonies.

With one or two exceptions the 72 were strong and in fine condition in spite of the presence of some European foul brood. May 6, there were 57 colonies having more than 4 frames of brood each, which we count fine for this locality. May 1, the bees had more than they could do on fruit bloom and dandelions. May 27, fruit bloom was over, and just at that time appeared the first blossoms on white and alsike clovers. May 29, we gave the first supers. We had in advance 660 supers filled with sections, ready to put on the

hives.

White clover was so promising that it was suggested to Dr. Miller that more sections might be needed. He scouted the idea. He said, "There is no need of more than 7 supers per colony, spring count. Allowing one empty super to each colony at the close of the season, that leaves an average of 6 supers to be filled by each colony, making 144 sections. We have 660 supers ready, or a little more than 9 supers per colony. We never had anything like that, and never will have. No matter how hard the bees are working now, there are always setbacks, as you will see, then there will be empty supers to burn at the close of the season."

June 19 the first super was finished, and June 24 we began taking off. But we put on more than we took off, so that there were 260 supers on the hives June 25; 291, June 27; 317, June 30; and still more afterward. In the meantime, importunities continuing, Dr. Miller ordered 5000 more sections. He said: "I am not ordering these on my



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own judgment; we don't need them; but my peace of mind is worth something, and it will not be a very expensive matter to have 5000 sections lie idle until next year.

But the bees must have had an inkling that a fresh lot of sections was on hand, for they seemed to put in honey harder than ever, and by July 30, the last of the 660 supers were on the hives, and 15 supers more out of the last 5000. On the same date Dr. Miller ordered another 5000, not needing any great urging thereto. He had lost all confidence in precedents, and didn't know what to expect.

July 8, there had been 367 supers on the hives, and for some time after that date the number changed but little, because about as many empty supers were put on each round as the number of full ones taken off. The long, even flow is somewhat indicated by the number of supers on the hives: July 8, 367; July 30, 368; Aug. 18, 314. July 30, there were 2 hives having on them 3 supers each; 20 with 4 supers; 31 with 5 supers; 15 with 6 supers; 3 with 7 supers; 2 with 8 supers; averaging a trifle more than 5 supers each. When one looked at those supers piled up on the hives, one could not help wondering what difference it would have made on the crop if each colony had been restricted to 2 supers at a time according to the practice of some.

About the middle of August white clover seemed to be letting up, although it was hard to tell very much about it. There was no cessation of flow, but a seemingly gradual change from white clover to sweet clover and heartsease, the latter almost as white as white clover, although generally considered amber.

September 22, we took off all supers, putting back over a few hives some sections that were filled but not quite sealed, and putting over these a lot of sections partly filled but not sealed. It was a fizzle. The bees didn't take our view of the matter, and emptied the honey out of the unsealed cells that we expected them to finish.

The weather throughout the season seemed to be made especially for the bees. It was not too dry; it was not too wet. When it rained it was generally in the night, clearing off in time for the bees to begin work in the morning. Up to Sept. 20, there were only two days (wet) when the bees showed an inclination to rob. When we took off supers, we could let them stand open on top of the hives all day. September 6 some scraps of honey were placed over the bees' watering-pail for them to clean up. It stayed there all day untouched. A few bees visited the pail, but they didn't want honey; they wanted water. The honey was then placed in front of a hive, and it was more than a day before it was cleaned up.

Careful account was kept of the honey taken, and each colony received the proper credit. During most of the season the crediting was an easy matter. No super was taken until it was full, and so 24 sections were credited. Often, however, two full supers were taken at a time, sometimes three, and in a very few cases four. But toward the last of the season the crediting was not

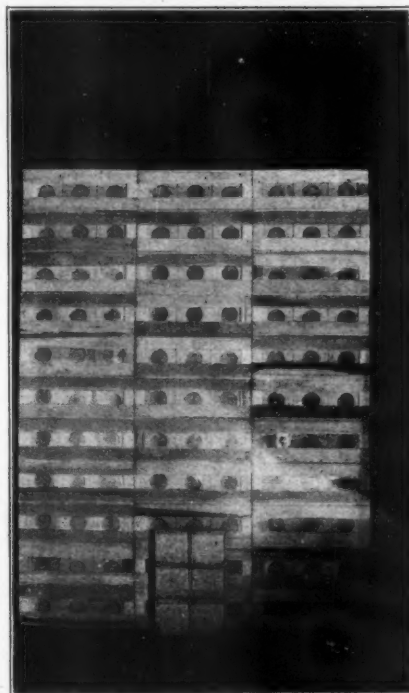
so easy, when some sections in a super were filled and others partly or entirely empty. If a super had credit for 15 sections, that doesn't mean that 15 sections were entirely filled, but that all the honey in the super would be enough to fill 15 sections.

When everything was footed up at the close of the season, quite a variation was found in the yield of different colonies—a thing not by any means to be proud of. Number 39, which was queenless a long time, and exceptionally vicious about accepting a queen, gave 68 sections. (That's 68 sections, not pounds, the account being kept altogether in sections throughout, the average section weighing somewhere around 14½ ounces.) Next to this came a colony with 112 sections, and from that it rose by degrees to 198 sections, there being just 10 colonies in all that gave less than 200 sections each. Then came 23 colonies yielding

between 200 and 250 each. Then 19 between 250 and 300, and 15 from 300 to 360. The last and best 6 colonies gave respectively the following numbers: 383, 384, 384, 390, 395, 402. The average for 72 colonies, spring count, was 266.47 sections each, the total being 19,186 sections. (How much extracted there will be is unknown at the time of this writing, as it is yet in the comb. But that is a separate affair.)

In all the years previous to this, the largest number of sections from a single colony was 300, and there was but a single instance of that kind. This year there were 20 colonies that beat that, one of them beating it by 34 percent.

Why did we do well? Perhaps the largest factor in the case was the phenomenal season. Added to this were bees improved by constant selection for best gatherers; surplus room was always in abundance; and we gave the



FROM NO. 4 WERE TAKEN 402 SECTIONS, FILLING 33 12-SECTION SHIPPING-CASES AND LEAVING 6 SECTIONS OVER.



SOME OF DR. MILLER'S HIVES WHEN THE CROP WAS ON.

# American Bee Journal

very best care and management we knew how to give.

Will we ever do as well again? Very unlikely; but who knows?

## Half-Acre Opportunities

I believe in "half-acre opportunities for women," and will give my experience with bees.

Twenty-four colonies, fall count, have produced 2800 sections of comb honey, an average of 116 sections per colony; the highest is 288 sections from one colony. This colony filled one super in three days. This is all

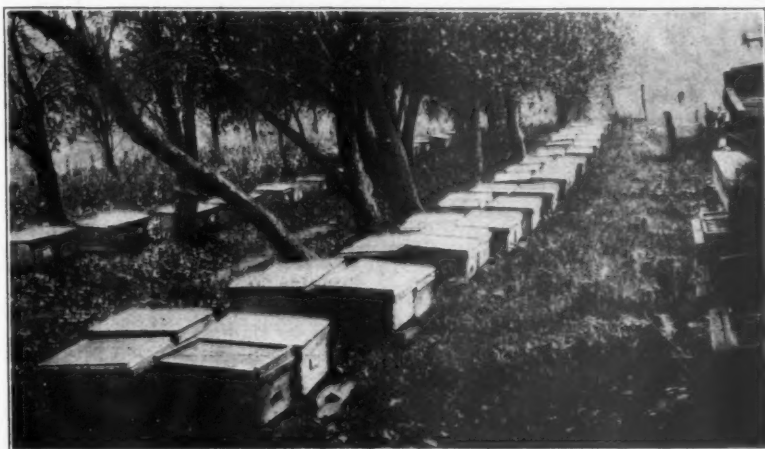
white alfalfa comb honey, as supers were not put on until June 14. The flow lasted until about the middle of September.

I use the 8-frame Langstroth hives, changing the old hive to a new place, and putting the swarm on the old stand. Twelve colonies in 1912 averaged 100 sections. This is all sold, and I am unable to supply the demand.

(MRS.) L. V. MELVIN.

Caputa, S. Dak.

Thanks for your report. If you can have an average like that every year, or even half as much, it would rather look as if you had full acre opportunities.



DR. MILLER'S APIARY AT THE CLOSE OF THE HARVEST.

## FAR WESTERN BEE-KEEPING

Conducted by WESLEY FOSTER, Boulder, Colo.

### The Rising Sweet Clover Tide

The value of sweet clover as a forage crop is rapidly being recognized. The Sept. 20 issue of *The Country Gentleman* contains a well-written article which says that sweet clover is destined to become a rival of alfalfa in many soils, and in some soils is superior to alfalfa.

The writer says: "Sweet clover has proved of real service in worn-out upland farms, for it is a soil renovator as well as a flesh former, a milk maker and a money maker. It will thrive where even weeds will not grow. It prospers on the best soil, and will produce abundantly on barren wastes. It is the greatest drouth resister of all forage plants; its roots penetrate the hardest ground, even taking hold in crevasses in rocks.

Sweet clover is destined to be one of the greatest crops on the dry lands of eastern Colorado and western Nebraska and Kansas. It has long been a question whether these dry lands would ever be fit for anything but cattle ranges; but farming methods and special forage crops, sweet clover includ-

ed, are being adapted to the special conditions. Prof. P. G. Holden, who is with the extension service of the Rock Island system, has just completed a trip through eastern Colorado. He advocated the growing of sweet clover on the dry land. He also made strong pleas for silos, and more of them.

At a recent luncheon given by the Denver Real Estate Exchange, among the speakers were Mr. R. A. Pence, who said in part: "The growing of sweet clover for cattle feeding purposes has become a flourishing industry in the dry land communities in recent years. On the Kubanker ranch, 40 miles east of Denver, and 7 miles from Strasburg, there is a splendid example of sweet-clover feeding to cattle."

### Prospects for Next Year

A more propitious fall could not have been designed to help the bee men. We have had a long warm season with very late frost. Alfalfa and sweet clover have made a fine fall growth, and both should winter in the best condition, as we have had ample

rains. The soil is moist, and sweet clover is still green close to the ground.

The seeding of sweet clover was very heavy, and the spread of it in waste places has been going rapidly on. Next year should see a large growth of this plant.

The frequent rains have doubtless been very destructive to grasshopper eggs, so we hope and expect to be bothered with this pest very little next season.

While the honey crop in Colorado has been larger than in a number of years past, the severe drouth in the States east of us has created a market for Colorado honey, as well as other produce. Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma are taking large quantities of honey this year.

### Poor Wintering of Colonies Affected With American Foul Brood

It has been a common experience among those who have tried to winter foul-brood colonies, that they do not winter well, especially if there is much diseased brood in the hive. I have seen very strong colonies, with a few foul cells, go into winter quarters and perish before Christmas. Other colonies would enter the winter well, but would die off rapidly before the coming of settled cold weather. There are two reasons that very largely affect the result:

First, is the lack of a large proportion of young bees, the late broods mostly dying from the infection.

Second, and I think the most important reason, is that a foul-brood colony does not cluster upon its combs and form a compact brood-nest. The bees are found more scattered through the hive. They are disinclined to bunch up in a compact ball. Perhaps it is the odor of the decaying brood that is offensive to the bees.

It is a wise rule to winter no foul-brood colonies unless only a half-dozen diseased cells are found.

### County Agriculturist Wanted

For a number of years the chief agricultural and horticultural counties of Colorado have had horticultural inspectors and also apiary inspectors. The County Agriculturist movement is now sweeping over the country. This is a strong proof that the people, as a whole, are realizing that agriculture is the basis of national prosperity. Why create another county officer on county pay? Why not combine the office of county apiary, horticultural inspector and agriculturist in one individual? The county agriculturist must be a versatile individual, but he can lend a great deal of aid to all classes of producers if he is the right man.

So bee men among our younger readers who are ambitious for some such position, prepare yourselves at some Agricultural College. A County Agriculturist must be a good organizer and have the confidence of the farmers. It is not required of him that he be an expert along special lines unless agricultural enterprise is greatly specialized in the county where he is to work. But



## American Bee Journal

if he does not know all lines he must know where to get experts for special work.

### Moving Pictures

I am a kodak and camera enthusiast. To take pictures is my delight. A clump of trees, a lane, some grassy plots, fields with cattle grazing, and the mountains in the background; these are things I like to arrange pleasingly on my film. And often it takes long searching to find the right spot where a *real picture* can be had.

I also enjoy looking at pictures. It would be hard to say how much of my education has come from them, but I dare say more has come that way than in the four years spent in high school.

Several dollars each year, and many hours, are spent looking at the movies—I've seen billions of them without doubt. I will not apologize for their shortcomings—the National Board of Censorship can do that.

Every new *rage*, as Mr. Scholl calls this one, has its critics, and they need them. The worst thing about the mov-

ies is the commercialism of the thing; the race for the nickels in Denver; the dimes in Boulder; the quarters in Telluride; and in Reno, I suppose they charge you a dollar to see the movies.

I object, however, to paying my good nickel, dime or quarter to see a dyspeptic husband abuse his good wife's cooking, throwing dish after dish on floor, and almost breaking up the home before the film is run through. Everything comes out sweet in the home (wrong with me) when the wife discovers that "Buncombe" brand products are all that is needed to make her cooking faultless. Perhaps "Buncombe" products have saved many a home from dissolution, but I don't want to pay to be told so in a moving picture. And I would just as strongly resent it if I were told in a picture (after paying my dime) that honey was the only sweet fit to enter a human stomach.

People will be entertained and instructed if they are shown in moving pictures the life and work of the bee, and how honey is produced and prepared for market, but don't make any special plea—it will defeat its own end.

and a joyous occasion. One young man, who has been with us but one season, and who was recently married, said: "Mr. Wilder, I want to stay with you in the bee-business as long as I live." We got together and had a convention such as I never experienced before.

Practically all the season's work was covered in conversation, in questions and answers, each one telling the most serious problems that had come up during the season, and how he solved them; and if such problems come up in the future he could solve them in a better way, etc. The result was that we were all made wiser. When we talked of the future side of business, they all wanted to make a big increase next season, and those who did not have 600 or 700 colonies in their care, wanted to reach that number as quickly as possible. Some of them wanted to run as many as 1000 colonies, and to this end they are now making preparations.

Their orders for the necessary supplies are placed, and some of them are large ones, too, consisting of over a half carload of goods. Our little bee-hive plant has been running full time for over three months, that we might keep up with orders and give them the supplies so they can have them set up in ample time for next season. The business situation looks better and brighter than ever before.



THE FRONT COLONY FILLED 224 SECTIONS THIS SEASON. IT BELONGS TO H. F. EDSALL, OF HAMMONTON, N. J.

## BEE-KEEPING



## IN DIXIE~

Conducted by J. J. WILDER, Cordele, Ga.

### Pleasant Emotions

I hope no one will think any the less of me if I express myself on my situation as a beekeeper from a business standpoint.

I am experiencing a general good feeling over business affairs, and the result is that my ambition is several notches higher than it ever has been. Things are going at a higher pitch for the approaching season.

It was about the middle of October

when I made my last round for the season to my Suwanee river apiaries. The general manager and foreman, with all the hands, met me with smiles and glad hearts, and each one gave me a hearty hand shake. In every way they could they showed me kindness and love. When I reached their homes I found that they had made great preparations for me, especially in the way of something to eat. In every particular my stay among them was a feast

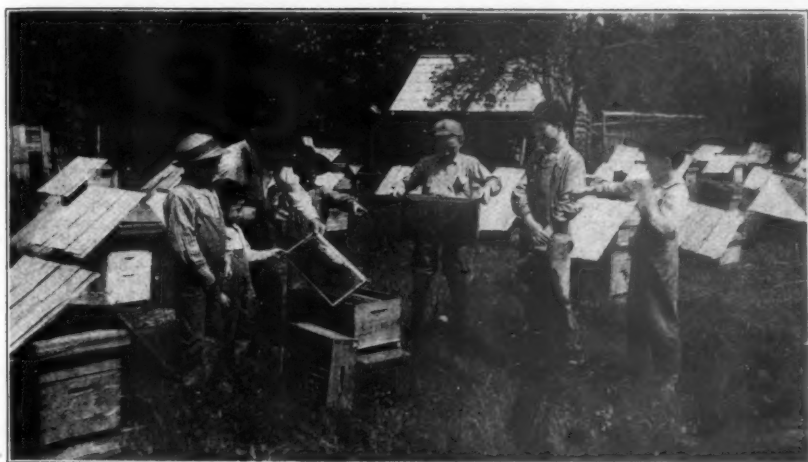
### Not Much Difference in Locations

The more I learn about the honey-flora, or the amount of honey secured in different locations all over our country, the more I am convinced that there is not much difference in locality as regards the amount of honey secured. If beekeepers would recognize this they would be more content. There are too many discontented and restless beekeepers wanting to move here or yonder to better locations, where they can keep more bees and produce more honey per colony; hunting or desiring to hunt "the good spot" for the business when they are already located in as good a spot as there is.

I know a good beekeeper who for years was not pleased with his present location, and said that it was the poorest one in the world. He made great efforts to get out to some "better place," but finally finding that he could not make a change, "he took off his coat and rolled up his sleeves" and resolved to make the best of the situation. And so he did, scattering apiaries about over the country. Today he is doing well, making money every season, and says that he is perfectly contented, and has as good a location as he could find.

I know a number of old apiary sites from which the bees were moved years ago, as the beekeepers said they were in poor locations. Since then other beekeepers have come into the same sections and located apiaries on the same old sites, and they are doing well. I dare say that it is a fact in nearly every case where a beekeeper wants to move to some good spot, that the difference in the net returns from his bees, located there for years, would not pay

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today he has a good job as an editor.

## The Winter Problem

During the winter months there is always more or less uneasiness among beekeepers as to whether bees are wintering well. Especially is this true of beginners, or those who do not know the condition of their bees, or the amount of stores they consume. To these I want to say that bees do not consume much stores the first part of winter, but the latter part and in early spring they consume much more because they are rearing young bees in great numbers. It will be time enough then to examine them and see how they have wintered and are progressing.

There are many beekeepers who remove but little honey during the season, for fear that their bees will perish during winter. This is a mistake. The honey in the supers should be removed; for, as a rule, they have plenty of stores in the brood-chamber or bottom story to tide them over winter and until the honey-flow or stores are equalized at the approach of spring.

In the South this surplus honey can be removed any time during the winter, the supers removed, cleaned, and made ready for next season. If the supers are filled with fall honey, or honey that will quickly granulate, it would be better to remove it as it is sold, or it can be left on the hives and removed early next spring, or as soon as settled warm weather comes.

## Home Apiary of Mr. J. K. Isbell, of Wewahitchka, Fla.

This apiary is located on the banks of the Chipola river in West Florida, where beekeeping is the principal industry. It is one of the best kept yards in the entire South. He has two similar yards with 250 colonies in each, and he devotes his entire time to bees, hiring help when his crop of honey is to be removed. Mr. Isbell removes the frames of honey as fast as they are completed or capped; therefore, he does not have to have so much storing room. His apiary consists of 2-story

T. C. NALL GIVING THE BOYS THEIR FIRST LESSON IN BEEKEEPING.  
"Ten years ago I bought a little fruit farm here in Chester, Ark. In the deal I got a few colonies of bees in old 'log gums.' As I could do nothing with them in the logs, I made some hives, the first I ever saw the inside of. I now have 300 colonies in five yards. It makes going easy for me."



T. C. NALL GETTING HIS PAY FOR TEACHING BEEKEEPING

moving expenses.

Many times these good spots do not prove to be so. I know of cases where apiaries were moved for miles across the country in cars and located where great crops of honey were reported nearly every year. In many instances the result was a miserable failure, the good beekeeper became discouraged, let his bees go to nothing, and quit the business. This is too often the case, and beekeepers should know what they are doing when they make the change. You know the conditions existing in your present location, and you are not apt to know them elsewhere.

## A Suggestion

There is a great number of beekeepers scattered over our country who have acquired enough knowledge of our business to write intelligently about it. I want to suggest that we write something that will interest and instruct the public along the line of our business, and send such articles to the editors of our county and State papers. They will be glad to give such articles space. This will go a long way towards educating the people in two

things; the consumption of our product and the building up of our industry. Photographs of apiaries or of bee-work could be used with good articles. Only a few years ago I knew a man who started writing in this way, and



APIARY OF J. K. ISBELL.



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hives, one story for the brood-chamber, and the other for surplus. He runs entirely for extracted honey, which, he says, pays best.

Mr. Isbell believes in shading the hives well, either artificially or naturally, and has a large alighting-board for the tired, heavy-laden bees. He keeps a record of each queen, and re-queens each colony every two years.

## Get Ready for a Bumper Honey Crop Next Season

It is none too soon to get supplies for next season's use, and set them up so as to have them in perfect readiness by the time they are needed. If reports are true, all bees are heavy with stores, owing to a good, late honey-flow lasting until frost, and as a rule bees are stronger than usual. This means that we will undoubtedly have a

bumper honey crop next season.

As a general thing beekeepers do not order enough supplies for the approaching season; not enough hives for increase or for swarms, thinking, perhaps, that the bees will not swarm, or something will happen that they will not need them. This is a great mistake, for it is always best to have a few hives left over, and not run the risk of losing swarms for lack of hives. Another deplorable fact is that there is rarely enough storing room in the supers provided, and the result is that much honey is lost.

I know this to be the case since visiting beekeepers over the country. They usually buy 1½-story hives, having but one super per colony when they should have not less than three. Some colonies will not need so many, but others will need more, and this amount is small enough even for seasons when our honey-flow is not heavy.



A SWARM! I CAN'T RING A BELL. WHAT MUST I DO?

## CONVENTION



## PROCEEDINGS

### Synopsis of Illinois State Meeting

On the morning of Nov. 5 the Illinois State Beekeepers' Association met at the State House in Springfield. All the officers were present.

The resolution passed by the association in 1912, asking the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois to establish a bee department and experimental station at the University had not been acted upon at this date. President E. J. Baxter, however, who had called upon the President of the University and the head of the Bureau of Entomology, reported that a bee department was favored, and as soon as the matter could be properly taken up it would be favorably considered. The State Entomologist, however, said he would not wish to take up the inspection work of brood diseases in the State, as it is in good hands at this time.

The report of Foul Brood Inspector, Mr. A. L. Kildow, showed that there was about 50 percent increase in the number of colonies of bees in the State, and foul brood diseases were being checked, and in many places entirely eradicated. European foul brood in the eastern part of the State is not yet under control, but that section is to be thoroughly inspected before another year passes. The inspection work was handicapped the latter part of the season on account of lack of funds. The State treasury being empty, the Foul Brood Inspector was notified not to spend any more than was absolutely necessary the latter part of the summer. All the funds, however, will be available early next spring, and a great deal should be accomplished.

Through the efforts of Pres. Baxter, Sec. Stone, and Senator Compton, the appropriation for foul brood inspection was increased by the Legislature

at its last session from \$1500 to \$2000. The State Legislature realizes that the beekeeping industry is an important one.

The program was to consist partly of competitive papers for which four prizes were offered, but only one paper was presented and read. This was by Jas. Poinexter, of Bloomington, and a good discussion followed it.

Action was taken to get one or more prominent beekeepers and speakers from outside the State to make up a strong program for next season. If possible to secure him the principal speaker will be Mr. N. E. France, of Wisconsin, whose value as a practical beekeeper was greatly enjoyed at the 1912 convention.

A photograph was taken during the morning session, but only some 20 members of the 30 or more in attendance were present.

The secretary of the Eastern Illinois Beekeepers' Association, Mr. H. S. Duby, asked that their proceedings be printed as part of the Illinois State Report, and he also asked for assistance from the Illinois State Association in the way of paying expenses of one or more prominent beekeepers to attend their convention in eastern Illinois. No action was taken on these matters. More organizations of beekeepers in Illinois ought to exist with field days. Instructions, especially on brood diseases, should be given out freely. In some sections of the State beekeepers do not recognize the good intention and value of the work of the inspector.

The question box furnished a large part of the program, and many live questions were threshed out. Conclusions on outdoor wintering were: Good protection from intense cold and cold winds; sufficient ventilation without draft to the bee cluster, and absorbent material directly above the cluster. Any method of packing used just above the cluster, forming a strictly sealed covering was condemned.

The question of the National Association, as presently managed, was brought up, and with but few exceptions the members were pleased with both the advantages the National Association offered and the Beekeepers' Review. The work formerly done for the National by N. E. France, as Manager, was warmly commended.

Getting reports of the United States honey crop through the Bureau of Statistics was discussed. The Department of Agriculture has sent out letters asking for suggestions on this matter. A thorough and reliable report of the honey crop, such as there is now made of the grain crop, would be of great benefit. Steps were taken to ask that the Department of Agriculture get the information necessary to facilitate them in making an intelligent canvass and report.

The matter of placing bees on the tax list is quite important. At present bees are taxed as miscellaneous property, and no doubt many colonies are not assessed. It will give more prominence to our industry, and make it easier for the beekeepers of Illinois to get the appropriations and other favors which they may need and ask of the Legislature.

The election of officers placed the

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same men in the chairs of President, Secretary and Treasurer; and Mr. Aaron Coppin, of Wenona, was made

1st Vice-President. Mr. W. B. Moore was elected delegate to the National convention.

friends leaving for far-away shores, you cannot please them better than by anticipating their departure with some such farewell.

Arriving at Havre on July 2, we at once took the special train for Rouen. As the train slowly pulled out of the docks, a swarm of ragged children followed it, holding out their hands and begging for coppers. We were very indignant at this sight, but were told that the New York arrivals are the cause of this begging, because the Americans amuse themselves throwing small pieces of money to the children to see them tumble over each other. This is a bad practice, and ought to be stopped. It actually creates beggars by offering a reward to begging. The practice of begging is much lessened in Europe; we did not see a single beggar in Switzerland, very few in France, and it is time to put an end to it everywhere.

I will not say anything about our visit in Rouen. The August number contains a sufficient account.

We reported having visited the office of L'Apiculteur, of Paris, the principal journal of apiculture of France. Very few people know that this is now the oldest periodical on bees in the entire world. The oldest was the Bienenzeitung of Germany, but I am informed that it has ceased its publication, there being now several other journals on bee-culture, in that progressive country. So L'Apiculteur is now the senior of all the bee-journals, our own American Bee Journal being next to it in age, and the oldest in the English language. L'Apiculteur is now 57 years old. Its first editor, Hamet, and my father had very strenuous discussions upon the advantages of the movable-frame hives and the modern systems of bee-culture. It was Hamet who called the honey extractor "a useless toy." But he has been dead many years, and his successors, Messrs. Sevalle & D'Autemarche believe in progress. The president of the "Société Centrale," the National bee association of France, is Mr. Bonnier, a great botanist as well as a bee-keeper of note. He has lately published a "Nouvelle Flore," and an "Album De La Nouvelle Flore," which contain descriptions and cuts of the flora of France. He is now publishing a "Flore Complète" of France, Switzerland and Belgium, with colored plates of the finest finish. Two volumes of this have already appeared, and I have secured them. One feature of his botanical works is that he never fails to mention the plants that are useful to bees. This is valuable to beekeepers everywhere.

We called also upon Mr. Condamin, the publisher of "L'Apiculture Nouvelle," which is really the representative of American ideas in France. This magazine, which is only 8 years old, has begun on a progressive method at once, reproducing many of the cuts that are published in Gleanings in Bee Culture. We are informed that it has many readers on this side of the Atlantic, some 500 of whom are French Canadians. Those of our friends who were kind enough to express the wish that the American Bee Journal be also published in the French language, are respectfully referred to this publica-

## NOTES FROM ABROAD

### Notes from Abroad

BY C. P. DADANT.

**W**ELL, dear reader, I am again writing from my desk at home, after four months of travel. The 50th anniversary of my first arrival from Europe, when a child, almost coincided with my return home, for I landed in Hamilton, Ill., on the 19th of October, 1863, and my wife and I landed in New York from our long trip on the 18th of October last. Fifty years of residence in a country ought to give one a fairly good idea of the country. I am glad to say that we returned to America with the greatest satisfaction, and with the feeling that it is the best country of all, even though it is behind Europe in many things. Mrs. Dadant, of course, being born here, did not hold a different view from mine.

In glancing over the letters written to the Bee Journal from abroad, I see that I can confirm what I have already written about the Italian bees. All along our route, the verdict was the same. The Italian bees are more active than the common bees; they rise earlier, stay out later, are fully as prolific, if not more, and prove better wherever the climate permits them to follow their inclination. But there are spots, and some parts of Switzerland are of that kind, where the very activity of the Italian bees is to their detriment.

I cannot do better than to give here a comparison which I have expressed to a number of beekeepers, and which illustrates the conditions they face in some cases and the results. Even though this illustration is taken from the vegetable world instead of the animal kingdom, the reader will plainly see the point.

When I built the house in which I now live, here at Hamilton, I planned to plant a number of hard maples, or sugar maples (*acer saccharum*), in the front yard. These, I thought, I could secure from the woods around, since the sugar maple grows naturally here. But I could get only 6 good trees, and I needed 21. So I asked a nurseryman to supply me with the extra 15. These were shipped from Wisconsin. As Wisconsin is 2 degrees or more farther north than we are here, I felt quite sure that the trees from that State would be fully as hardy as the local trees, and would thrive. But the result was exactly the reverse of what I thought. As soon as a few warm days come, in early spring, the Wisconsin trees evidently take it for granted that the winter is over, and they send forth leaves and stems. After a few days a frost comes that wilts all this growth, and the trees are set back to such an

extent that they can make but little growth. The home-grown trees, however, are so acclimated that they do not trust the first warm days, do not hasten to send forth their growth, and when they do grow, all danger of frost is over. So the trees from the colder country are worse off than the others because they trust an unknown climate.

I believe that where the Italian bees fail, it is for a similar reason. They are accustomed to the climate of Italy, and their instinct prompts them to go out at the first ray of sunshine. But in some parts of Switzerland, as I pointed out in my October letter, the bees that venture out on doubtful sunny days are often unable to return. The very activity of the Italian bees thus turns against them. Similarly, when a warm spell during the latter part of summer induces them to breed, they spend too much in rearing brood, while the local bees mistrust the short fair weather and practice economy. The climate of the Mississippi valley is certainly more similar to that of Italy than to that of the cool valleys of Switzerland. So the Italian bees are suitable for our climate, and we may still be sure that they are preferable to the common bees, or even to those of Switzerland.

I heard very favorable comments concerning the Carniolans and the Caucasians. But the universal verdict was that the Carniolans are very great swarmers. Perhaps this habit could be bred out by the use of large hives, but if we wish to succeed we had best begin with the races that are nearest to our ideal.

I will have more to say concerning the Italian bees when describing the apiaries of central Italy. I saw there, in Bologna, at the home of Mr. Enrico Penna, the most perfectly kept apiary that I have seen anywhere, all things considered, and I propose to give our readers a full account of it. But so many have asked me to write an account of our entire trip, not omitting even the sight-seeing, that I feel bound to acquiesce. Thus, if my readers find columns that do not contain any bee-news, in these "Notes from Abroad," they will please remember that it is in response to the wishes expressed by many, of a thorough account. I have a number of photographs, landscapes, apiaries, bee-meetings, etc., which will illustrate these notes as we go along.

When we left the shores of America, in June last, we found in our cabin, at the departure of the boat, some 25 farewell letters, from our friends on this side, and an immense bouquet, an armful of roses. We wanted to mention this because we still feel the emotions which arose in our breasts at the sight of such fine tokens of friendship from all around. If any of you have dear



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tion, which would probably give them entire satisfaction.

I have a cousin in Paris, who is exactly of my age, and with him we visited some of the monuments, but it would tire the reader to tell him about the beautiful things in Paris. He can read descriptions of this kind in any travel magazine or book. We prefer to take him with us to the by-ways that the average tourists does not seek.

We must, however, give a word to the National holiday of France, the 14th of July, the anniversary of the destruction of the Bastille, the political prison and fortress whose downfall

sounded the knell of royalty in France, at the end of the 18th century. The French are lovers of pleasure, and this disposition showed clearly in the preparations for the National holiday during the two days that preceded it. Flags were hoisted, rows of colored electric bulbs were hung over the monuments, and at night many streets were closed to vehicle circulation to permit of public dances right in the middle of the streets. The increase of visitors and of traffic was such that we concluded not to remain, for we dislike crowds. So we departed by rail on the very morning of the 14th.

All pronounced it as having an oily flavor, and one made such a base slander as to say that it had a semblance of *castor oil*. Now, see here, you sage honey men, please notice that I did not say that; so don't turn your ammunition in my direction. Laying all joking aside, I wonder if the honey was not mixed with something besides sage, and if such was the case, no doubt our California friends would know the source of this "oily" flavor.

## Address Before the Apiculture Club

It was the writer's pleasure to talk to the Apiculture Club at the Ontario Agricultural College on the evening of Nov. 10. The class is a large one, and I judge that about 125 turned out and listened patiently to a lot of "hot air." I suspect that the splendid interest manifested may have been caused by the desire of a lot of boys, and some

## CANADIAN



## BEEDOM

Conducted by J. L. BYER, Mt. Joy, Ontario.

## Wintering Prospects in Ontario

Bees, I believe, are going into winter quarters in first-class condition. Our own are exceptionally heavy in the brood-nests, and our feeding bill has been lighter than usual. Much of this honey is from buckwheat, but as it was gathered in a slow flow, in hot dry weather, and well sealed, I have an idea that it will be first rate for winter stores. In no case have I taken any from the brood-nests, even if colonies were so heavy that I gave them no sugar syrup at all.

## Second-Hand Cans

Mr. Diemer's experience with second-hand 60-pound cans is typical of what often occurs when these used tins are put on the market again. And the worst of the thing is that the buyer of the honey stored in such tins is generally the loser—not the fellow who sold the goods. As to the bees being so plentiful in the honey as to make it easy to tell the race kept by the beekeeper, that is quite a scheme, pretty much on a par with the dairyman who has enough hair in his butter so that the color of the cows may be known to the customer.

## Clipping Queens

If there was anything in Prof. Bigelow's contention that more than one queen goes with a prime swarm, our practice of queen clipping might as well be abandoned at once, as control at swarming time, when one is in the apiary, and the assurance that a swarm will go back if it does swarm while we are absent, are the main reasons why we clip queens. Needless to tell any one, who has tried the plan, that our expectations are seldom disappointed in that line either, and in running large out-apiaries it would be a problem to

get along without clipping the queens, for in at least nine times out of ten, if the old clipped queen is caught in front of the hive at swarming time, the bees will come back again.

## How Much from Beekeeping?

If I may be allowed to criticize Mr. Wilder's advice to the men who asked if they could make respectively \$20,000, \$50,000, and \$100,000 at beekeeping, I would say that said advice is so unlikely to come true that it should never be given that way at all. I believe that 99 out of 100 who start out with that idea of beekeeping, will be bitterly disappointed in the end, and will more than likely reproach the one who held out such glittering prospects.

By all means let us be conservative in a matter of this kind, as that course is better for those who are already in the business, and for those thinking of engaging in this line of work as well.

## Orange and Sage Honey

A short time ago I was favored with some samples of honey from California, sent by Homer Mathewson, of Binghamton, N. Y., a friend I had the pleasure of meeting at Albany when the National convention was held there.

The samples were from orange and sage. The first named was delicious in flavor, but not as heavy in body as to be rated No. 1 in that respect. But the flavor had a decided "morish" taste, and I would give quite a bit for a can of real orange honey for our own use *for a change*. This latter qualification is to assure you that for steady use I still think there is nothing better than our own clover honey.

The sample from sage was very heavy in body and light in color, but the flavor was not appreciated very much by any member of the family.



LITTLE ALVA BERRY, AGE 4 YEARS.

I am sending you a picture of my little son taken with the bees. On a walk to a cornfield 2 miles from my home, June 13 of this year, I discovered this beautiful swarm hanging on a limb bent nearly to the ground. Having 25 colonies at home, and some empty hives, they looked good to me, so I took my pocketknife, trimmed the limbs and carried them 2 miles home. I called a friend in Atchison, a distance of 6 miles, to come and take the pictures—the little fellow holding the swarm of bees is my son. He is 4 years old, and is not afraid of bees; yet he has been stung several times.

I started with bees 3 years ago, and have increased to 25 colonies, and want to reach a hundred. I like to work with the bees very much.

Rushville, Mo.

WALTER BERRY.

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girls, too, to make another "boy" feel at home. No matter what prompted them in their actions, we will remember for a long while the splendid reception given, and hope that at least something of value may have been dropped during the rambling address they heard.

## Kingbirds Catch Worker Bees

Mr. A. D. D. Wood says, on page 380, that kingbirds only catch drones. I wish that I could agree with him, as the bird in question is one of the best, from an insectivorous standpoint. But I have seen them scores of times catching loaded workers, in the evening, when not a drone would be flying. I have been within a few feet of very bold ones, and saw them catch loaded bees just at sunset. Even if they do catch worker bees, we could almost afford to spare the birds for the good work they do in other lines, but from experience at different times I am afraid they often catch queens when on their mating flight.

This is particularly true if the birds have a nest of fledgelings near the apiary. In a case like that an immense lot of food is needed every day. Find-

ing no worker bees in the stomach of the birds is no evidence, as I have often dissected a bird right after watching it catch many bees, and never yet found a bee perfect enough to tell if it was a drone or worker. I believe that, as a rule, the bee is crushed and certain parts swallowed, the balance being dropped at once on the ground. But if there is anything I am sure of at all, it is that kingbirds catch worker bees as well as drones.

## Comb or Extracted?

For a number of years I have advised inquirers to produce extracted honey instead of comb. Judging by present conditions too many have been following this plan. Present prices and conditions in the honey market, say with no uncertain sound that the apiarist equipped and qualified for comb-honey production can make no mistake in following that line of the business. Some one has asked the Beekeepers' Review editor to change the familiar "Keep more bees," on the front page, to "Eat more honey." First class advice, and let all who have influence in these matters in Ontario, take up the same slogan.

patient pine away under the fever. If the bees are on the summer stands, and a day comes sufficiently warm for the bees to fly freely, there is no harm in looking at them, for there is very little if any brood, and should there be a little in two or three frames, the large number of bees in proportion will cluster over this brood so no harm will result. Often there will be a few hours of sunshine with the mercury up to 50 in the shade, when bees in chaff-packed or double-walled hives will hardly wake up enough to fly. Under these conditions I have thought it paid to arouse the bees by opening the hive of such colonies as do not fly, or jar or pound on the hive a little to wake them from their winter sleep, so they will fly and carry over honey from the outside combs into the cluster, thus preparing them for a few weeks more of cold weather.

Where bees have been properly prepared for winter during September and October, they should be let alone during the winter months. If there is a necessity for disturbing them I should not hesitate. Only do not create a necessity through procrastination or willful neglect of getting the bees in the best possible shape for winter during the fall months. There is little question but that disturbance causes the bees to consume greater quantities of food, and often sets them to rearing brood when they otherwise would not do so.

But I have many times proven that such disadvantage was overbalanced by the advantage gained along other lines. Let me give one or two illustrations:

When I had been keeping bees some two or three years a farmer living two miles distant, advertised 27 colonies for sale in box-hives at \$5.00 each. This was considered a big price at the time, but like any beginner I was anxious for more bees, so I went to see them. He kindly consented to let me look them over, which I did by carefully tipping the hives on the benches they occupied, as they were wintering out doors. I found that most of them were light in stores, and that there was only one colony in the lot that I considered worth the \$5.00. I offered \$5.00 for this one, which he took. I wrapped it in one of the sheets I had brought along, put it on the opposite side of the cutter seat which I occupied, turning it bottom-side up, and drove home in the twilight of a cold evening in the forepart of January. I well remembered how the bees roared, as the sleighing was poor, and how I inwardly censured myself for not leaving them where they were until spring, as "such a disturbance as this" would surely cause them to die. When they got quiet, about 10 o'clock that night, I carried them to the cellar where the rest of the bees were, took the sheet off and set them in their place beside the others, still bottom-side up, as in the early 70's we always wintered bees in box-hives that way.

No more of the farmer's bees were

## CONTRIBUTED



## ARTICLES

### Disturbing Bees in Winter

BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

**A** CORRESPONDENT writes thus: "Will you tell us in the American Bee Journal whether it is detrimental to disturb bees in winter. Should one wish to look after their welfare for any reason, such as lack of stores, to see at about what time the queen begins to lay, or anything that a man with the bee fever might want to know, would harm come by so doing? Must I positively let them alone after they are in the cellar for the winter months, or if left on the summer stands?"

During the summer season, with the mercury at 70 degrees or more in the shade, the handling of bees by removing the frames from the hives can do no harm unless perchance this is done in time of a scarcity of nectar, and so carelessly that robbing is started. But, as a rule, it is better not to disturb any colony unless something is to be accomplished by so doing. If you wish to post yourself about the inside workings of a colony, then it is better to set aside some individual colony for that purpose, and let the knowledge gained be considered as the financial profit from that colony, for no colony can do its best at storing honey where the roof of its house is removed every few hours.

Where anything is to be gained by looking after the welfare of a colony, which is supposed to have a poor or failing queen, scarcity of stores, poor combs, etc., then the disturbance of such a colony is not to be considered, as the profit will exceed the disadvantage.

But when it comes to the winter months we have altogether different circumstances. The bees have "gone to bed" for a six weeks to four months' nap, in accord with continued cold out-of-doors, or with the will of the apiarist if wintered in the cellar. If the apiarist has been "abreast the times," he will have looked after their stores in the fall, to make sure that none will be short until spring opens. Good stores and a temperature of from 43 to 47 degrees, with darkness, are necessary for cellar wintering, and good stores, proper protection through wind-breaks and packing are all that is required for wintering on the summer stands. So why disturb the bees? Better post up for the next season by getting down your back volumes of the American Bee Journal and all the books you can afford which treat on our specialty.

But if the bee fever of a novice runs so high that his curiosity must be satisfied as a safety valve, then perhaps it would be better to disturb the bees of one colony at their peril than that the

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sold, and imagine my surprise to find on going there one day the last of April, that all but 2 of the 26 colonies left were dead, while the one I had disturbed "nigh unto death" was one of the best colonies I had; it gave a good swarm that year and stored 129 pounds of "box honey."

After our great loss of bees during one winter in the latter 80's, a winter extremely cold and long drawn out, the claim was made that the bees "froze to death." I did not believe it, but claimed that no chance to fly during 5 months of "long confinement" was the cause. The argument "waxed so hot" that one afternoon the next winter, when the mercury stood at 12 degrees below zero, I took a colony of bees, and with cover and bottom-board removed, suspended the hive a foot above the ground, leaving it thus for 36 hours, during which time the mercury got as low as 23 degrees below. This colony was then put on its old stand again, and came out in May fully

equal to any of its fellows, which had no disturbance above the usual winter's elements.

In conclusion, allow me to say that if there is anything in this article that would seem to show that the disturbing of bees in winter does no harm, I protest in advance against the assumption that I advise such disturbance. I do not so advise except where some gain is expected to be made.

Borodino, N. Y.

## Beekeepers I Have Known— "Dr. A. F. Bonney"

BY FRANK C. PELLETT.

**T**HERE are no words in my vocabulary to adequately describe Dr. Bonney, of Buck Grove, Iowa, for he is undoubtedly the most unique character among Iowa beekeepers. Because of ill-health he was for years a wanderer in search of

a climate that would benefit him, and he has met with many adventures such as fall to the lot of few men. Detective, photographer, chemist, assayer mining expert, explorer, lecturer, editor; all

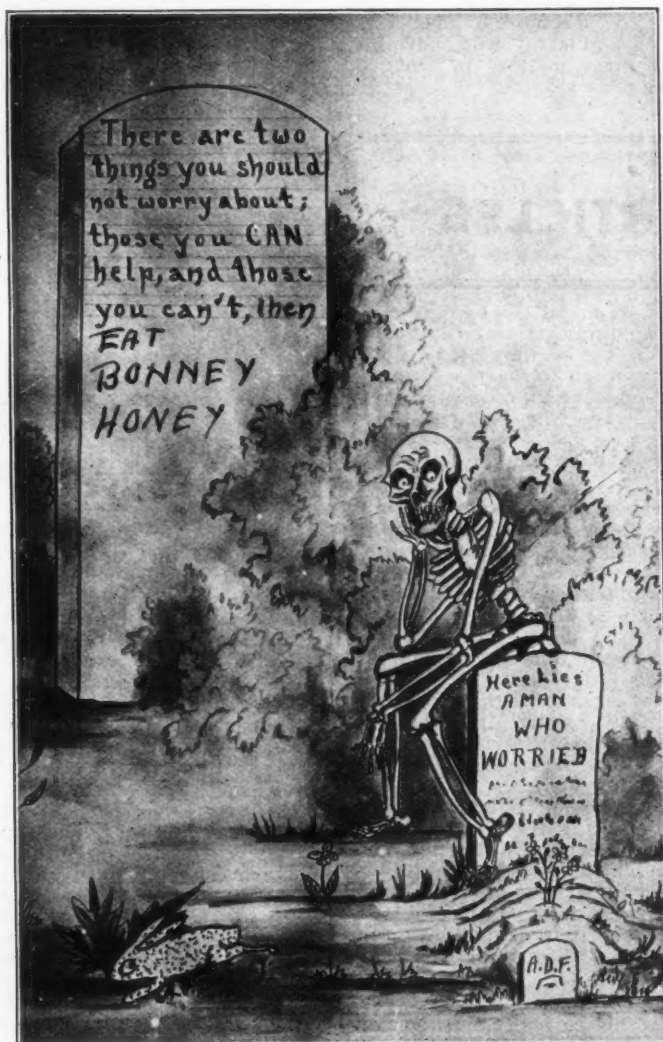


A. F. BONNEY AT 27.

these he has been and more in addition to his regular profession, that of a physician, and now he is rounding out an eventful life as a beekeeper in a quiet little town in western Iowa.

Dr. Bonney has unlimited resources as an entertainer. His gift of ventriloquism led the Indians to call him "The man of two voices," and he has many times mystified his friends by his feats of sleight of hand. He was a resident of the southwest in the old days when every man carried a six shooter to serve as a lawyer, judge and jury in the settlement of disputes. The old habits unconsciously manifest themselves at times. For instance, in any company he will take such a position that no one can approach him from behind. His adventures in Old Mexico and the southwest would fill a book, and his stories fairly bristle with thrills. It is said of him that he had frequently to change his sleeping place in the days when he edited a socialist paper in a little town in Arizona, because of the fact the enemies frequently shot through the rooms where he was supposed to be sleeping. On one occasion he proposed to a gun man, who had a grudge against him, that they shoot at a mark, and the poorest marksman leave the town forever. Dr. Bonney won and the other fellow handed over his gun and left the place according to agreement.

Dr. Bonney is constantly starting something among the bee men, either



SAMPLE OF THE POST-CARD DR. BONNEY USES.

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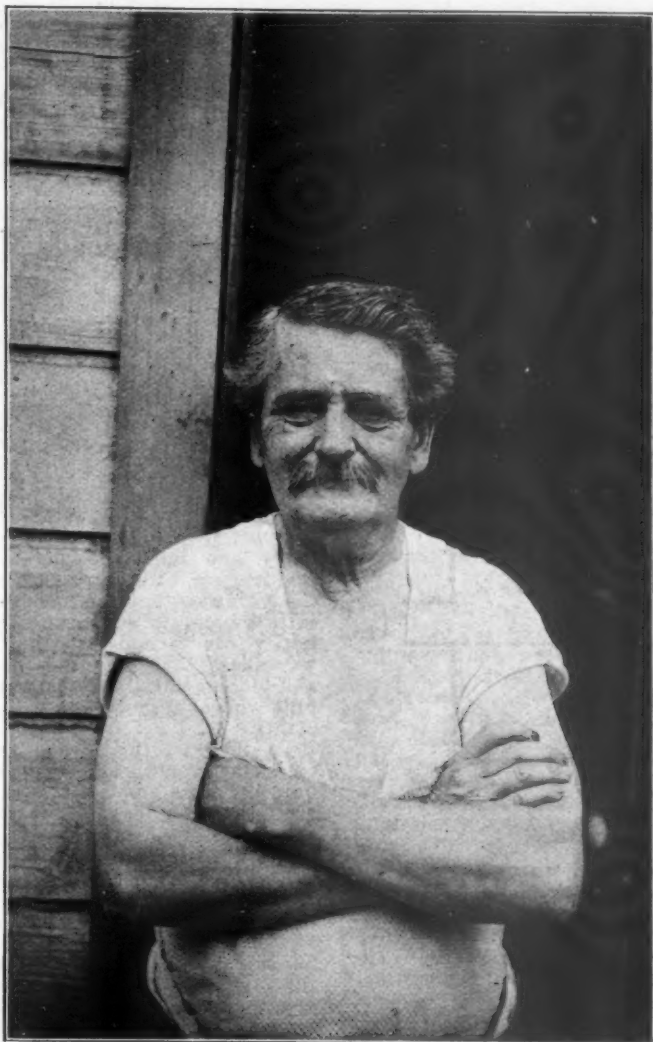
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with his tongue or pen, and is always engaged in some good-natured controversy as to whether or not bees reason, or whether they can be improved, or some other of the many perplexing questions that are always before us. The writer and the Doctor cannot agree for 10 minutes at a time, although we are the best of friends. It looks like the only way we can ever settle our differences is in a similar manner to the Arizona contest, but as the

writer is a poor marksman, he will hardly risk such a challenge.

Dr. Bonney is a persistent advertiser, and sells his honey at good prices. His favorite means is a comic post card, in some corner of which appears a rabbit and the words "Eat Bonney Honey." By sending out a batch of these cards at any time he usually finds a lot of customers for his product.

Atlantic, Iowa.



A. F. BONNEY.

## Bee Diseases

BY GEORGE W. BERCAW.

**M**Y contact with bee-diseases has been more from observation than from experiment, owing to the fact that none of our many yards has ever been more than lightly affected. Some years ago we purchased an apiary of 100 colonies, and among them found a few light cases of foul brood. It being in a very light form, we very readily

stamped it out by taking it in hand immediately.

I do not think any up-to-date bee-keeper needs to feel alarmed if he will only heed the advice given, and take immediate steps to stamp out any disease that may show itself in his yard, and do all in his power to assist some brother beekeeper in his immediate locality who might be so unfortunate as to have disease among his bees. In my travels through different parts of the State I have come in contact with various bee-diseases. I have seen out-

apiaries, located oftentimes in out-of-the-way places, where the owner visits them about once a year to get the honey, leaving the bees to shift for themselves. Here I usually find old box-built antiquated hives with odd-sized frames, sun-warped covers and sides, with bee-entrances on sides, top and bottom. It is not an unusual thing to find such bee-yards in this State. Not all are affected with disease, but a large percent of them are, and in view of such conditions, easily succumb. Contagious diseases spread very fast among the human family, and this is no less true in insect life; infected bees are as a general rule weak, and are an easy prey to the stronger colonies, thereby spreading contagion by reason of the robbing of honey.

In producing bees and queens commercially for shipment, extreme caution should be exercised, taking no unnecessary chances in shipping anything from a disease-affected yard or from a locality where it is known that any diseased bees are kept. I would suggest that all persons owning bees, whether for pleasure or for profit, keep a close watch over them, and in event of anything suspicious call for the inspector, and do not wait. He will gladly assist you and give all the aid at his command to stamp out disease and prevent its spread.

The time is at hand when these suggestions will have to be handled under a more systematic method, and much good can be accomplished by the earnest and faithful co-operation of every bee-keeper interested, whether he has one or a thousand colonies.

Glendale, Calif.

## Well Preserved Honey — Extracting by Centrifugal Force

BY DR. A. F. BONNEY.

**T**HE National Geographical Magazine for September, among other things, contains a statement so startling that bee-keepers will no doubt agree that it is utterly false. However, we must remember that conditions of heat and moisture are very different in Egypt from here, that things were sealed and buried deep in the earth. Again, the men who are conducting those excavations are of well known integrity, and have no possible interest to deceive. On page 999 I read:

"The tomb was intact, and the objects it contained were as perfectly preserved as though they had only been shut up a few weeks before \* \* \* Two beds of fine design decorated with gold occupied another part of the chamber, while a light chariot in perfect preservation stood in a corner.

FRESH HONEY 3000 YEARS OLD.

"Most startling of all was the discovery of a jar of honey, still liquid and still preserving its characteristic scent after 3000 years. 'One looked' says Mr. Weigal, 'from one article to

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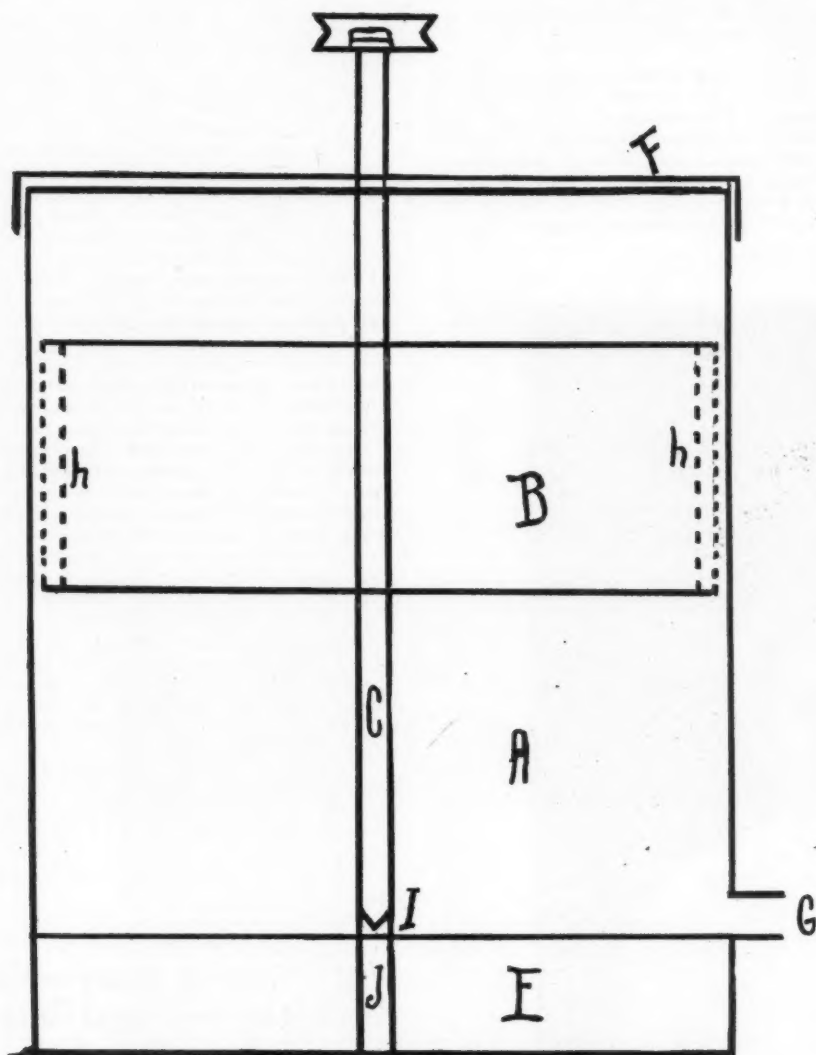


DIAGRAM OF MR. BONNEY'S IDEA OF A WAX PRESS.

A, tank; B, cage; C, shaft; D, pulley; E, water space; F, cover; G, honey (wax) gate; h, walls of cage; I, pivot joint; J, base for shaft.

another with the feeling that the entire conception of time was wrong. These were the things of yesterday, of a year or two ago."

If my memory serves me, there was found while excavating Pompeii, vessels containing fruit so well preserved that the flavor of the different kinds could be detected by taste and smell, which renders a little more probable this other story, remembering as we do that cloth, paintings, feathers and mummies have come down to us as fresh as though buried yesterday. When the mummy of Seti was unwrapped his features were found so well preserved that any one knowing the living king would surely recognize him. He lived nearly 3500 years ago.

"It is not our knowledge of the past that makes us proud of the present, but our ignorance."

#### A CENTRIFUGAL WAX EXTRACTOR.

For 3 or 4 years the writer has studied over a cheap simple way to

separate wax from waste, and applying some of his knowledge of mechanics and philosophy found that if a machine is made as follows, from 95 to 98 percent of all the wax can be saved. The three factors are time, heat and motion:

Construct a tank according to your needs, say 36 inches high and 30 inches in diameter. Have the cover fit very tightly, possibly clamps will be needed. In this can is a perpendicular shaft extending from the bottom of the tank to a foot above, and on this shaft, inside the tank, is a shelf almost as large as the inside of the tank, while outside on the shaft is a small pulley.

The table should be of metal with a few corrugations one inch deep at the edge, and none at the hub. Around the edge of the table is a wall of wire mesh, one-sixteenth of an inch mesh or larger, or a double wall, the outer of fine screen, the inner of coarse. These will be about 2 inches apart and a foot high.

In the bottom of the tank is a space for water, and at a height of 6 inches a honey-gate to draw out the melted wax. A pipe conducts steam into this tank, or arrangements can be made to heat the contained water. I prefer the steam idea, as it can be run in superheated, and will render the wax as liquid as water.

It will be seen by the mechanically inclined that if wax of any kind is put into this cage, heated, then the table revolved 200 to 1000 times to the minute, every particle of wax will be thrown off, as the water is thrown from washed clothes in the laundry centrifugal drying machine or the cream from the milk in the separator. Any machinist will plan the thing for you. That the idea is entirely practical I feel very sure.

Buck Grove, Iowa.

## Honey Production in Michigan

BY IRA D. BARTLETT.

**M**Y apiary consists of 160 colonies, and I harvested 17,000 pounds of wild red raspberry and clover extracted honey, and about 200 pounds of comb honey in 1912. The ground is very level, as you will note, but to the north and west of the apiary there are ranges of hills. It will be many years before they are used for agricultural purposes. At present they are covered with wild red raspberry and milkweed plants. In the ravines are little brooklets, and here the willows bloom in the spring, and furnish plenty of pollen and some early honey for brood-rearing. In these wet places the goldenrod thrives also, and blooms later in the fall, and on the hills where there are some scattering plants.

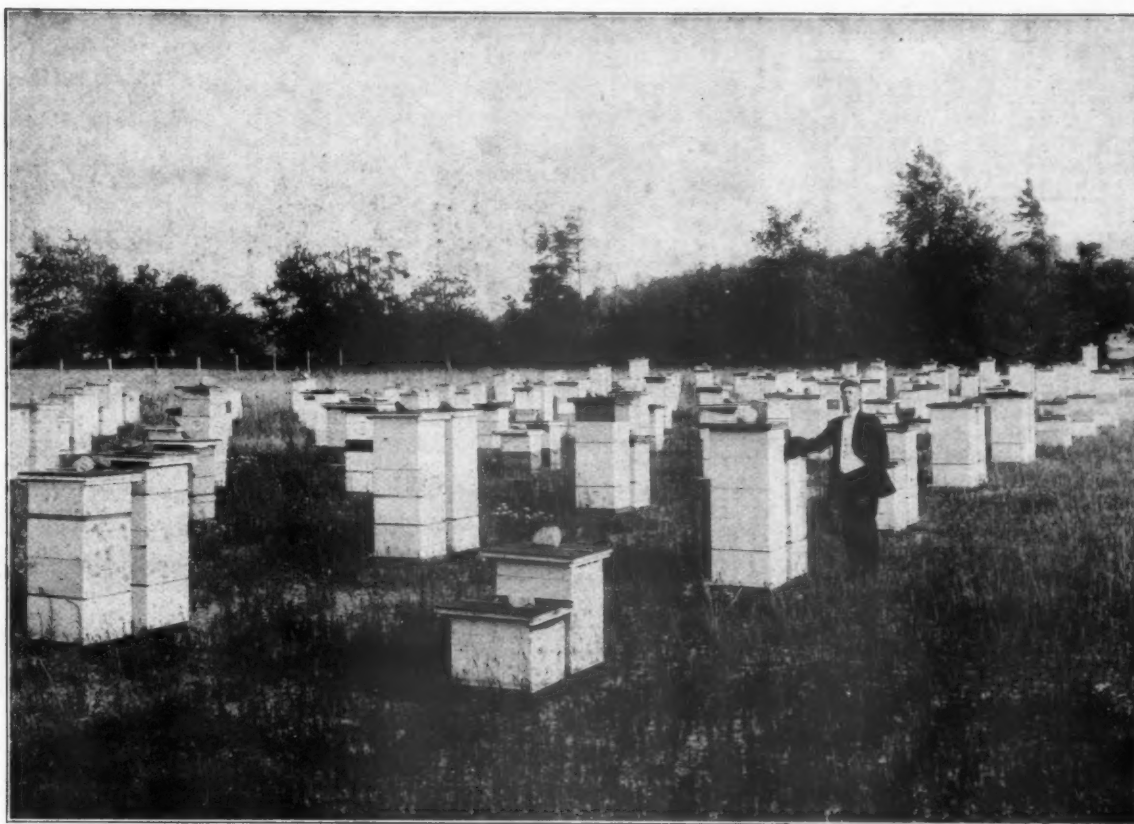
To the east the Jordan river flows from the north, and along the river bottoms large fields of alsike clover are grown. For some reason alsike clover has not secreted much nectar for several seasons, but years ago we depended almost entirely upon it for our honey crop.

We have a very diversified soil here, so the source from which we get our honey changes with the season. In 1912 it was very wet just previous to opening of the red raspberry, and then it was very warm and dry during the flow. The result was a heavy flow from raspberry, but the dry and warm spell during the raspberry and clover came just at a critical time for the milkweed plant, and so we got very little from that source.

We have a great number of honey plants here in northern Michigan, but as it is usual in any country, there are but few plants that give us any quantity of surplus. We have the soft maples, willows, poplars, water maples, dandelion and fruit bloom early; then raspberry, clover, red and white alsike, willow herb, sumac, basswood and milkweed. The fall honey plants are goldenrod and buckwheat. There are

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MR. IRA D. BARTLETT IN HIS APIARY.

also numerous other plants that the bees work on, but they give no noticeable amount of surplus.

As you will notice, the hives are placed an equal distance from each other both ways, and in pairs. All colonies face the east. The hives I use are the 10-frame full depth. I have, however, about 30 8-frame ones. I tier up from the bottom by raising all supers that are on, and placing the super to be put on directly over the brood-nest. I have a sufficient number of supers to harvest a crop. The queen-excluder is used on all hives, being placed on about July 1. In 24 days all brood is hatched, and then the honey is taken off with bee-escapes and stored in the honey house, where it is heated to the proper temperature, extracted, and run into 60-pound tin cans, cased, and then they are ready for market.

I have one other apiary similar in size run the same way. The tall hive of bees shown in the picture produced 300 pounds of extracted honey in 1912. East Jordan, Mich.

## The Season of 1913 in Central Illinois

BY C. F. BENDER.

**T**HE difference in seasons is marvelous. Having kept bees in one locality nearly 20 years, and making honey-production my business, I had begun to pride myself on being a good guesser as to future honey-flows. But my pride as a forecaster has vanished. If some one were to ask me now if we were likely to get a honey-flow from mush-

rooms, or whether ginseng honey would be plentiful next year, I should answer, "I don't know."

Our season began in April with a heavy flow from dandelions. Bees were wanting to swarm by May 1, and about 10 pounds of dandelion honey per colony was stored in supers. That was broken record No. 1. I had never had any surplus from dandelion before, and never had to fight swarming earlier than June.

The white clover looked good, and we prepared for a record crop, but the heat and drouth spoiled the bloom, and the season ended about June 20 with 5 pounds of white-clover honey per colony. Then we had 10 days of robbing, with a little honey-dew coming in, enough to spoil all sections of white clover that were not completely sealed. I cancelled my order for shipping-cases, and otherwise took in sail. According to all previous experience we were slated for a poor season. The white clover was completely dried up, and the dry spring had spoiled all chance for a fall crop.

But another surprise was in store. About July 1 red clover began to yield. I am pretty sure it was red clover, because I took great pains to sift the evidence. To begin with, the weather had been so remarkably hot and dry that there was little else in bloom; then a great many of the incoming bees carried the typical red clover pollen, and we never get that shade of brown pollen from anything else. The red-clover fields showed great numbers of bees at work; and the men who cut the hay complained that the hay forks and mowing machines were all sticky

with honey. I could find very few plant lice on the clover plants, and the bees seemed to be working altogether on the blossoms.

It was important to be sure that the honey came from red clover, because I wanted to know what red-clover honey was like. I believe that the bulk of my crop was from that source, and it is even whiter than the white-clover honey, and quite as fine in flavor.

I have three small apiaries, and there happened to be large fields of red clover in reach of each. Perhaps for that reason the crop was greater than I ever got from red clover.

With me the season was also peculiar in giving a large crop of honey with no swarming after dandelion. Only one of my colonies tried to swarm after June 1. We did not have the usual intermission in August, the flow continuing right along, and after the red clover ceased to yield, or was all cut for hay, the Spanish-needle began and lasted until Oct. 1.

About Sept. 20 some kind of wild aster began to yield, which was another unusual thing. I took off all supers just before Oct. 1 as usual, for the storing in comb-honey supers nearly ceases when cold nights come. But I was sorely tempted to put them on again, for honey kept coming in briskly up to Oct. 20, when we had our first killing frost. Dandelion also bloomed freely in October, and likely helped.

For once we have "gathered grapes of thorns, and figs of thistles." That the worthless dandelion should produce solid cash; that protracted drouth should cause a bountiful honey crop;



# American Bee Journal

that this great yield should be gathered without swarming; that supers should be needed in October, and that 95 percent of all this honey should come from plants that had never given me surplus before; these have been what Dick Swiveler called "staggerers." Newman, Ill.

## The Value of Exhibits

BY J. M. KILLIAN.

**A**TTACHED is a picture of a bee and honey exhibit that I made at our county fair. You will notice that we had an old "bee-gum," also a box-hive and a straw skep; together with several modern hives. The intention of the exhibit was to show the evolution of the bee hive from the straw hive on down to an up-to-date hive.

I had never seen a hive made of straw, but from photographs and descriptions of them. I cut some rye when it was beginning to get ripe and allowed it to cure. Then I twisted and formed a continuous rope of straw and shaped it as you see in the photograph. It was the object of much curiosity at the fair, and hundreds of people asked questions about it. Only a few of the older ones had ever seen one. We had quite a display of honey, both comb and extracted, also beeswax and "chunk honey."

But the part of the exhibit that caught the crowd, was the observatory hive of live bees, working on a nice frame of wired foundation. The queen was the admiration of all who saw her. A display of this kind does not pay so far as the premiums given by the fair are concerned, but as an advertisement of your honey, nothing can compare with it. My honey is all sold near my home; in fact, most of it in my own town; so you see I met and talked with the people who buy and eat my honey; and they like to see and get acquainted with the man who produces it.

And, say! you have the finest opportunity to explain away that old canard about manufactured comb honey, and you have no idea how many people believe it, and how much harm it has done the bee-industry. It takes considerable self control to be pleasant and talk kindly to one of those fellows who tells you that he *knows* it can be manufactured, for he has bought it, and the grocer told him it was manufactured honey, etc. But I always explain to him the reason why it cannot be manufactured, get him to pay me a visit and see the bees at work if possible, and after you have convinced him that it is a mistake, he is always ready to correct others that he may meet.

I have been producing chunk honey for eight years, and selling it for 20 cents a pound.

Rockport, Ind.

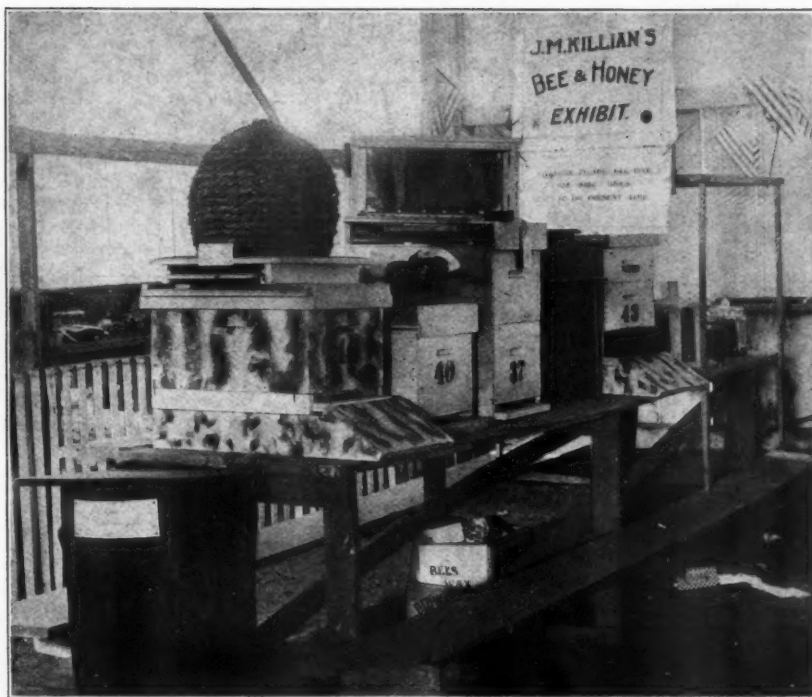


EXHIBIT OF J. M. KILLIAN, AT ROCKPORT, IND.

## DR. MILLER'S ANSWERS

Send Questions either to the office of the American Bee Journal or direct to  
DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.  
He does NOT answer bee-keeping questions by mail.

### Transferring and Feeding

1. When is the best time to harvest honey from the bees?
2. When is the best time to transfer bees from a tree or box-hive?
3. When is the best time to feed the bees?
4. I had one colony and lost it by feeding them only sugar water. Other bees robbed them and they starved. What is the best feed, and how and when shall I feed them?

TEXAS.

ANSWERS.—1. If it is comb honey, the sooner it is taken after it is sealed the better, because the whiter the sealing the better it will sell, and it becomes darkened by being left on the hive. If it is extracted honey, you can take it as soon as it is sealed, or you can leave it on the hive until the bees are done storing. But if you care for your future market, don't extract unripe unsealed honey.

2. If you want to transfer the bees with little or no regard for honey, there is probably no better time than in fruit-bloom. If you want to get as much honey as possible, do it at the close of the honey harvest.

3. The best thing is never to feed them, but let them gather their own stores. But if the season is a failure, as it is some years in most places, then you must feed. The best time for that is just as soon as you know they will need feeding for winter; say in

August or September. October does very well, however, and even if you haven't fed until December, better feed then than to let the bees starve.

4. The best thing is to give them combs of sealed honey, but it isn't likely you have them. The next best is a syrup of granulated sugar, probably just what you did feed them, only there was probably something wrong about the way you fed that started robbing. Of course, I cannot tell what it was that was wrong; possibly you may have spilled some of the feed, or done something else that was a bit careless. Be careful not to leave any cracks open that will let bees in from the outside. If there is danger of robbing, it is well to give feed in the evening after bees have stopped flying, and to give no more at a time than they will clean up by morning. For fall feeding nothing is better than a Miller feeder. If you feed early, equal parts of sugar and water will be all right; but if you do not feed until after the middle of October, then you can have 5 parts of sugar (either by weight or measure) 2 parts of water.

Evidently you have no bee-book of instruction, and it will be big money in your pocket if you get a good one, say such a one as Dadant's Langstroth.

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# American Bee Journal

## Comb or Extracted?

Which would be the most profitable for me, comb or extracted honey? I was offered 6½ cents per pound for mixed extracted honey delivered at Indianapolis. The home demand (about 1000 pounds) is 15 cents per pound for comb honey. As I expect to make beekeeping my occupation, could I afford to sell extracted honey for 6½ cents per pound?

INDIANA.

ANSWER.—It is not an easy thing to say what would be best; so many things must be taken into consideration, the peculiarities of pasturage, market, etc., but it would seem that you ought to do considerably better with comb at 15 than with extracted at 6½. There are places where extracted can be profitably produced at 6½ cents; but hardly in your locality.

## Introducing Queens—Stores—Foul Brood

1. Should I introduce a tested queen into my colonies that have not shown much strength this season, and have not swarmed?
2. Is this the right time to do it, and how do you go about removing the old queen?
3. How much honey should I leave in each hive, as a winter supply for the bees?
4. Is it too late to remove any surplus honey at this time of the year?
5. How can I tell foul brood?

NEW JERSEY.

ANSWERS.—1. Hard to say without knowing more about it. The likelihood is that there is not a good queen in a colony which has not become strong; yet something depends upon how much excuse it has for remaining weak. If it was very, very weak in spring, it is still possible the queen may be all right. But if it was reasonably strong early, has good combs, with not much drone-brood, and if there was enough pasturage so that other colonies built up strong and did well, then it would be well to replace the queen with a better one.

2. It is getting pretty late, as brood-rearing is pretty much over, and it might be as well to wait until next season. There's no special trick about removing the old queen, just look over the brood-combs until you find her, and then mash her with thumb and finger. But don't kill the old queen in advance of having the new one, for sometimes there is delay in getting a queen.

3. A store of 30 or 40 pounds is none too much for wintering out doors, a stronger colony needing more than a weaker one, and for cellaring 10 pounds less will do. Better 5 pounds too much than 5 ounces too little. The overplus will not be wasted.

4. No; if supers are still on, take them off; only in so doing look out that you do not take away stores needed for winter.

5. You probably cannot tell it at all now, for it is a disease of the brood, and unless in a very bad case you can detect it only when brood is present. The chief symptom in American foul brood is the ropy character of the dead larva; stick a toothpick into it, and when you draw it out it will string an inch or two in a string. If European foul brood, look for larvæ that instead of being pearly white are quite yellowish. If you write to Dr. E. F. Phillips, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., he will send you gratis valuable printed matter about foul brood.

## A Cure for Foul Brood?

In the Western Honey Bee for October, page 26, and also in the advertising columns occurs the following by C. W. Dayton: "I

will pay \$25 for any case of foul brood (European or American) that cannot be cured with 5 cents worth of *antibum* (honey and water)." In the article he makes wonderful statements on his discovery of *antibum* and *aquasun*.

Let us know if this man is a *fake*, for if his claims were true, New York State would be soon cleared of foul brood, and Mr. Dayton would be kept busy making his cure.

NEW YORK.

ANSWER.—I have much doubt as to the efficacy of the remedies named.

## Introducing a Queen by Smoke Method

As I am just a beginner, I wish you would explain as clearly as possible how to introduce a queen by the smoke method.

WISCONSIN.

ANSWER.—In *Gleanings in Bee Culture* for June 1, page 370, what you call the smoke plan of introduction is thus given by Arthur C. Miller, the inventor: "A colony to receive a queen has the entrance reduced to about a square inch with whatever is convenient, as grass, weeds, rags, or wood, and then about three puffs of thick white smoke—because such smoke is safe—is blown in and the entrance closed. It should be explained that there is a ¼-inch space below the frames, so that the smoke blown in at the entrance readily spreads and penetrates to all parts of the hive. In from 15 to 20 seconds that colony will be roaring. The small space at the entrance is now opened; the queen is run in, followed by a gentle puff of smoke, and the space again closed and left closed for about 10 minutes, when it is reopened and the bees are allowed to ventilate and to quiet down. The full entrance is not given for an hour or more, or even until the next day."

Editor Root is very enthusiastic about the plan, since having tried it very fully with great success. In *Gleanings* for Oct. 1, he directs to start the smoker going, giving a dozen or two strong puffs out in the air. When the smoke rolls out of the smoker into the air dense and heavy, blow 3 strong puffs in at the entrance, and then close the hive. After an interval of perhaps 10 or 15

seconds, push the queen in at the entrance, follow her up with one more strong puff of smoke, and close the entrance. In all four puffs are given, all that a large smoker will give when the bellows is closed clear down at each puff. In five or six minutes remove the plug. He says the plan will not work with a small nucleus in a large hive, even if the rest of the space be filled with empty combs.

## Carniolans or Italians?—Divisions

1. Which is the more fitted to Japanese conditions, the Italian or the Carniolan? This is a rainy and moist section.

2. Colonies often show intentions of swarming at the close of the honey-flow, when they have produced comb or extracted honey in abundance. Is it better or not to separate colonies before they show inclinations to swarm? If it is better to separate, how is the best way to do it?

JAPAN.

ANSWERS.—1. To get an answer to this question the two kinds should be tried side by side. Even after knowing climatic conditions one can only make a guess, and my guess would be that the Italians are better.

2. Again I am on uncertain ground, but should think it better not to separate, so as to have strong colonies for winter.

## Precautions in Uniting

If you were to buy bees by the pound to strengthen weak colonies, what precautions would you take to insure a safe uniting?

IOWA.

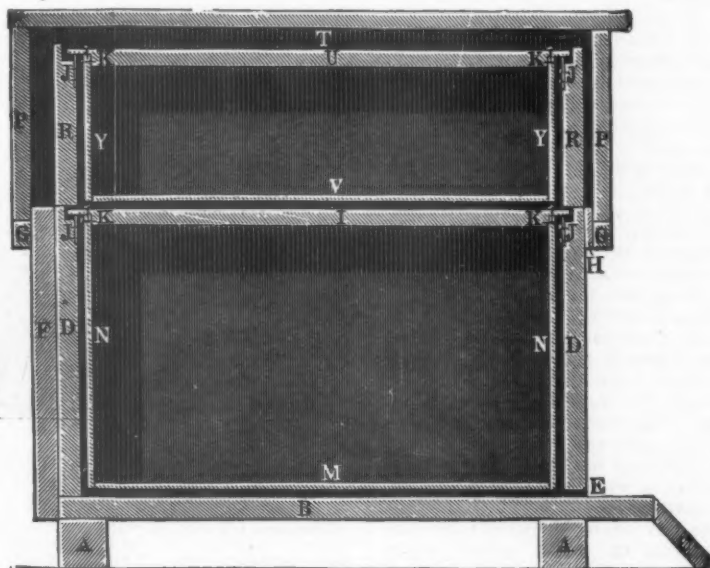
ANSWER.—Shake both lots on the ground all mixed up, and let them run into the hive together. As an additional safeguard, before mixing, dust both lots with flour.

## Dimensions of the Dadant Hive

I have been looking through the *American Bee Journal* for dimensions of the Dadant hive and frame about which I wrote Mr. Dadant some months ago, but cannot find them. Will you kindly give them in the replies to queries. The expense of getting a sample hive here is too great.

C. N. WHITE, England.

ANSWER.—The dimensions of the Dadant hive are not given in any previous number



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of the American Bee Journal; they are to be found only in the Langstroth-Dadant book and in Bertrand's "Conduite du Rucher" (Conduct of the Apiary), which has been published in eight different languages. The dimensions of the frame are about the same as those of the original Quinby movable frame. This hive is especially adapted to the production of extracted honey, and that is why it is very much more widely used in the countries where modern bee-keepers can secure almost as much for extracted per pound as for section honey. We give the cut of the hive. The dimensions are to be found in the Langstroth-Dadant book.

## Foundation and Drawn Combs—Splints

1. I have been running my apiary for chunk honey, but find that I can find a sale for quite a lot of extracted honey. I have a few nice straight combs on medium brood foundation, wired. What would be the storing capacity of one colony with one-inch foundation starters, one colony with full sheets of thin surplus, and one colony with full sheets of medium brood foundation, as compared with a colony with full drawn combs; that is, if a colony with full drawn combs could fill 20 frames, about how much could the other respective colonies fill, everything else being equal. I expect to use full sheets of thin surplus for chunk honey, and full sheets of medium for extracted. I ask these questions simply to have some idea as to how much foundation of each kind to buy this season.

2. I use full-sized Hoffman frames. I have a good supply on hand, and do not wish to buy any more this season, or I would buy shallow frames. I notice that I can buy full-sized sheets of thin surplus to fit these frames, and expect to use them this coming season instead of narrow starters as heretofore. Do you think I will gain any more chunk honey by this?

3. On page 393, of "Langstroth on the Honey Bee," you advocate the use of wooden splints to support these wide strips of foundation. Do you use these splints in extracting frames as well as in frames for chunk honey?

4. Do you use splints opposite each other on the foundation, or do you use them on one side only? KENTUCKY.

ANSWERS.—1. I don't know. If you want me to guess, I'm willing to do my best at guessing. I must premise that by saying that the answer depends somewhat upon the flow. If a short and very heavy flow is on, the fully drawn combs will have a much greater advantage than they will have in a light and long-continued flow. In the former case, while the colony with full combs stores 20 pounds, the colony with one-inch foundation starters will store from 10 to 15 pounds, and the colony with full sheets of thin surplus from 12 to 17. With medium brood foundation it ought to do just a little better than with thin surplus.

In the case of the long, slow flow, while built combs give 20, the starters should give 15 to 18, and the full sheets of foundation 16 to 10. I can, however, imagine an extreme case with an immensely heavy flow lasting only a day or two, in which 20 pounds would be stored in the built combs and not a drop in the others. On the other hand, I can imagine a very long flow with a very little more gathered daily than the bees need for their own use, and very nearly as much stored with starters as with full combs. But remember that all this is only guessing, and my guesser may not be in perfect working order. I think the editor-in-chief knows more about it than I do, and I'd be glad to have his guess, even if it makes mine look like the guess of a beginner. [My guess would be a greater difference when built combs yielded 20 pounds, say 10 to 15 pounds for starters, and 15 to 18 for sheets of foundation. I have seen sometimes what Dr. Miller states, 15 to 20 pounds in built combs



FAMILY OF C. N. WHITE, OF ENGLAND.

and not a drop in the others.—EDITOR.]

2. There will be a very little gain in a long and slow flow, and a very big gain in a short, heavy flow

3. I would use splints in extracting combs,

but on no account in chunk honey, unless the honey were afterward to be cut up on the lines of the splints and the splints taken out.

4. On one side only.

## REPORTS AND EXPERIENCES



### Twelve Colonies Yield \$244.25 on a City Lot

The honey-flow here this season was the best ever, white clover especially. There hasn't been so much in 10 years. Sweet clover bloomed until frost killed it. We had a few acres of buckwheat that yielded well, but it was about 2½ miles from town.

I sold all of my honey here at home for 20 cents per pound. I sold \$210.25 worth of comb honey and \$34.50 worth of bees. Bee-keeping is just a side-line with me, and all this was done on a city lot 75x150, with 12 colonies, spring count. I got 1307 sections

with bees, and make a better living than I do now.

I have worked 27 years for one man in a sawmill as head sawyer, and it is quite a relief to go home and spend a little time with my bees; not only a relief but a pleasure. If any of the subscribers can beat this record of getting 1307 sections and selling \$210.25 worth of honey, and \$34.50 worth of bees on a city lot four squares from the court house, with 12 colonies, spring count, I would be glad to hear from them.

The American Bee Journal has been a great help to me, and I cannot afford to be without it while keeping bees.

FRANK LANGOHR.  
Columbia City, Ind., Nov. 13.

### Scraping Sections

I, like some other writers, am willing to give valuable information away and not get it patented (excuse me for classing myself with writers). When I sat down to scrape over 17,000 sections of comb honey this fall, I tried several schemes to shorten and better the process. I got up after scraping, grading, and boxing it ready for market very tired. Now, the valuable recipe I am about to give to the old beekeepers as well as the new, is this: "Just keep on a scrapin'."

Nampa, Idaho. L. W. BENSON.

### Revengeful Bees

An unusual case of injury to the "innocent bystander," is given in the following incident: At one of the farm houses in north-eastern Pennsylvania, the children had a pet fox, which they kept in a chicken-wire cage staked down on the lawn. One day the farmer's wife came from the spring-house carrying a dish of honey. This she placed on top of the fox's cage for convenience while she busied herself with some other outdoor work. She forgot all about the honey until late in the day, and on hastening out for it found the fox dead. The bees from a neighboring hive had been attracted by the honey, and they had attacked and killed the fox. Do you believe that the bees



THE APIARY WHICH YIELDED \$244.25 ON A CITY LOT.—OWNED BY FRANK LANGOHR.

from bees this season. I have 15 colonies all packed for winter, with an abundance of stores. Attached is a small picture of myself among my bees. This was taken just as the buds on the trees were shooting forth. To the left is my shop where I make my hives and do all of my work for the bees.

No swarms got away from me this season, as I use the clipped-queen plan. I find this is the best way to prevent them from getting away. The experience of this season tells me that there is money in bees if conducted rightly. If I had a place, say 20 acres, I would be right there and have it stocked

# American Bee Journal

blamed the fox for the theft of the honey?  
Scranton, Pa. F. W. BRADY.

[You do not say whether the bees who took that honey were the same ones who had supplied it in the first place. It might have come from another hive. Don't you think that, if the bees could accuse the fox of stealing the honey, they might also have noticed that he was caged? If bees always tried to sting to death those who deprive them of some of their honey, some of us would probably have been stung to death by this time.]

Laying jokes aside, it is quite probable that there was some dispute among the bees of several hives upon the carrying away of that honey. This is usually the case. Then, angry behavior and fights being the result the restless fox was attacked as would have been other hairy, living creatures close at hand. At a time of robbing, we have seen the bees of very peaceable colonies attack men and beasts at quite a distance. That is another argument against ever exposing any sweets in reach of the bees in times of scarcity. Fighting for exposed sweets renders them uncommonly irritable.—EDITOR.]

## Carniolans All Right

Attached is photograph of one of my Carniolan colonies. Please note in the Bee Journal of October, 1912, on page 311, I made inquiry about larger hives, and the advice I got from your valuable Journal shows the result this year. The colony in the photo-



210 POUNDS OF COMB HONEY WERE PRODUCED BY THIS COLONY THIS SEASON.

graph has made 210 pounds of comb honey this season. I can show you several colonies of these bees that did fine this year. We had a very short honey flow this summer. It was the severest dry weather I have ever seen. My Italian colonies did not get half the honey that the Carniolans did, and they say the Carniolans are swarming bees. In my estimation they are no worse than any others if rightly managed. Please note the way I am dressed, when working among my bees. It shows their gentleness.

They work on red clover as well as any Italian bee, and they gather very little propolis and cap their honey nice and white. The Carniolan bee has come to stay in my apiary.  
Peoria, Ill., Sept. 16. EDWARD V. MAREK.

## Good Report from California

I have finished extracting, and took a little over 9000 pounds from 102 colonies, spring count, and increased to 156 good, strong colonies, and they all had at least 30 pounds of honey; many of them with as much as 35 pounds. Many thanks for your instructions. My honey for 1911 averaged 86 pounds of extracted per colony; 1912, 80; 1913, 90.

This is away over the average of this section of the country. I am sending you, under separate cover, a little bunch of *Polygonum bolanderi*. It begins to bloom about Aug. 10. I have seen bees working on it Nov. 4. They are working on it today with as much vim as they worked on alfalfa or white clover any time this summer. They usually store from 20 to 40 pounds of honey from this plant per colony. It just puts them into winter quarters in the best of shape. Lots of my bees have as much as three frames of brood now. This little weed grows on the upland and in rocky outcroppings on land that is almost useless. It is a member of the buckwheat family. There are hundreds of acres of it near here, and in many places the ground is just covered with it.  
Edgewood, Calif., Oct. 8. W. A. GRIDLEY.

## Dry in Kansas

This has been the driest season Kansas ever saw, and the bees have not stored much honey. They started out well, but the hot winds dried up the flowers, and I had to begin feeding Sept. 1, but soon after rains came and vegetation sprang up like magic, and now they are working well on

smartweed, dandelion, straggling sweet clover and other like flowers.

I had 30 colonies, spring count, and increased to 50, and they will go into winter in fair condition.  
Arkansas City, Kan., Oct. 10. W. L. POWELL.

## 1200 Pounds from 18 Colonies

My honey crop was fairly good this season. I had 18 colonies, spring count, increased to 10, and produced 1200 pounds of extracted honey.  
Percy, Ill., Oct. 7. F. A. WICKLEIN.

## In Fine Shape in Kansas

I have 11 colonies to go into winter, 9 of which are strong with full brood-chambers, and I am leaving a full super of honey on each of them, to make sure that they have plenty of stores. The other 2 colonies are young ones of this year; one a fairly early one with a full brood-chamber; the other one was a late one, July, and has a fairly good supply of honey, but I expect to place for each of these a supply in supers on the hives.

I winter my bees out-of-doors in a shed, and wrap the hives well with burlap, and the tops with tar felt. The 9 original colonies have put an average of 100 pounds to the colony into the supers this season; but only one swarmed.  
Richfield, Nebr. W. D. STAMBAUGH.

[We would advise you to remove the combs of honey from the supers for winter, and fill the empty super with forest leaves or some other good packing material. With full brood-chambers the colonies will have plenty of honey to last until spring. Early in the spring you could replace the full super combs, one by one if the colonies needed them.—EDITOR.]

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## New York State Convention

The New York State Association of Beekeepers' Societies will hold its next annual meeting in Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 2 and 3, 1913. We expect to have the usual good time renewing old acquaintances.

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ances and forming new ones, and learning from the advice and experience of those working in our chosen field. All those interested in beekeeping are urged to be present. You can't afford to stay away, as we often get advice free that will bring us many dollars.

IRVING KINYON, Sec.

Camillus, N. Y.

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M. G. Dadant, Business Manager.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 2d day of October, 1913.

H. M. CUERDEN,

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[SEAL]

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## HONEY AND BEESWAX

**CHICAGO, Nov. 18.**—Sales in the aggregate have been fair during the past month, but the supply is quite heavy, and prices are weak. It is difficult to obtain more than 15¢ per pound for the A No. 1 to fancy grades, and lower grades are more or less neglected, prices ranging from 10¢ per pound less according to kind, condition and color. Consignments have not sold readily owing to these conditions. Extracted is also freely offered with prices of the best grades of white ranging from 8¢ per pound, and ambers from 7¢ per pound, with the undesirable flavors difficult to market. Beeswax is steady and sells upon arrival at from 30¢ per pound, according to color and cleanliness. **R. A. BURNETT & CO.**

**SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 15.**—The comb honey market is overstocked, and little or no demand at present, and prices have dropped accordingly. No. 1 fancy, 13¢; No. 2, 10¢; No. 3, 8¢; No. 4, 7¢. Extracted, water-white, 9¢; white, 7¢; amber, 6¢; darker grades, 5¢. Beeswax, 30¢ per pound. Very little offered. **JOHN C. FROHLIGER.**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 10.**—Receipts of comb honey are large; demand fair. Receipts of extracted not large; demand good. We quote as follows: No. 1 white comb, 24 sections per case, \$2.75; No. 2, \$2.50. There is a limited demand for light amber at the same price of white. White extracted, per pound, 8¢; amber, 7¢. No. 1 beeswax, per pound, 30¢; No. 2, 25¢.

**C. C. CLEMONS PRODUCE COMPANY.**

**CINCINNATI, Nov. 3.**—The demand for both comb and extracted honey is not as brisk as it should be for this time of the year. We are receiving quantities of both comb and extracted honey. Fancy white clover comb honey is selling at 16¢ per pound. No. 1 white is selling at \$3.50 per case of 24 sections. Off grades do not sell. White clover extracted honey in 60-pound cans is selling from 9¢ per pound. Amber grades are selling from 7¢ per pound, according to grade and quantity purchased. Beeswax is selling from \$3 to \$3.50 per hundred.

The above are our selling prices, not what we are paying. **C. H. W. WEBER & CO.**

**BOSTON, Nov. 10.**—Fancy and No. 1 white comb, 16¢ per pound. New fancy white extracted in 5-gallon cans, 10¢. Beeswax, 30¢. Pure white honey in barrels, 9¢ per pound. **BLAKE-LEE COMPANY.**

**LOS ANGELES, Nov. 10.**—The market on California honey has been inactive recently, on account of the failure of the sage honey crop and the scarcity of other fancy varieties in this State. We think this is largely accounted for by the fact that there has been plenty of other kinds of honey produced both in the western States and in the East. There is a car of fancy white orange honey still to be had at 9¢ per pound, f. o. b. Los Angeles, and there are a few cars of alfalfa light amber honey which could be sold at about 6¢ per pound f. o. b. shipping point; also one car, possibly two, of fancy light amber mountain honey at about 7¢. Outside of this small quantity the honey business in the extreme West depends upon the sweet clover and white alfalfa honey produced in the States lying just east of California. This is held now at 6¢ per pound, f. o. b. shipping point.

There has been a lively demand for beeswax at prices higher than usual, and on this account the producers have sold rather freely. Eastern buyers are bidding 30¢ per pound and upwards f. o. b. California. **HAMILTON & MENDERSOHN.**

**CINCINNATI, Nov. 10.**—The demand for honey is good. We sell fine table honey in 60-pound cans from 8¢ per pound, according to the quality and quantity. Amber honey in barrels from 5¢ per pound. Comb honey, the very finest we are getting, from \$3.75 to \$4.00 a case. For choice bright yellow beeswax we are paying 30¢ a pound delivered here. **THE FRED W. MUTH CO.**

**INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 18.**—Honey is moving freely. Fancy white comb is selling at 16¢; No. 1 white, one cent less. Finest extracted, 10¢ per pound in 5-gallon cans. Beeswax is in good demand, and producers are being paid 32¢, cash or trade. **WALTER S. POWDER.**

**DENVER, Nov. 10.**—Our local market is well supplied with honey, and our jobbing quo-

# American Bee Journal

tations are as follows: Strictly No. 1 white, per case of 24 sections, \$2.70; choice, \$2.57. No. 2, \$2.43. Extracted, white, 80¢; light amber, 77¢. We are in the market for beeswax, and pay 30¢ per pound in cash, and 32¢ in trade delivered here.

THE COLO. HONEY-PRODUCERS' ASS'N.,  
Frank Rauchfuss, Mgr.

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—The market condition of comb honey remains the same, and we quote fancy white at 16¢, No. 1 at 14½¢, No. 2 at 13¢, mixed and buckwheat at 10½¢, according to quality. On account of the somewhat short crop in the eastern States, a few cars of western comb honey have been sent into our market, and this in connection with the nearby crop is sufficient supply to meet demands. Extracted honey remains about the same. There is a fair demand for white clover which is selling at 8½¢, amber to light amber at 7½¢, buckwheat at 70¢. Southern honey in barrels is selling at from 60¢ to 75¢ per gallon, according to quality with plenty of supplies.

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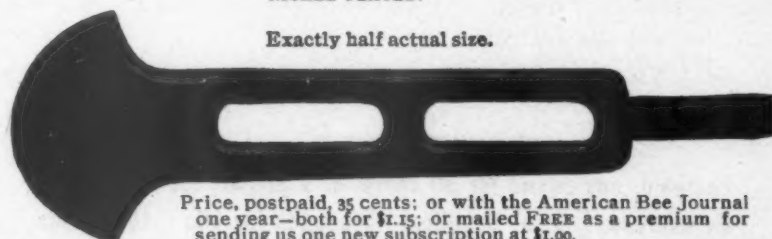
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American Bee Journal, Hamilton, Illinois.



# American Bee Journal

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### —HERE ARE A FEW MORE—

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Yours of the 16th, also the brake-band for power-extractor, came to hand. Thanks for sending it so promptly. This is my second season with the power extractor. I would not like to be without it now, even if I had only fifty colonies.

DAVID RUNNING, Grindstone City, Mich., July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1910.

I received the extractor I ordered of you some time ago. It arrived in good shape. I set it up and extracted 133 quarts of honey, sold it at 35 cents a quart. The extractor is just fine—does the work completely.

F. D. KING, Athens, Ohio, Aug. 16, 1912.

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V. V. DEXTER, North Yakima, Wash., Jan. 19, 1911

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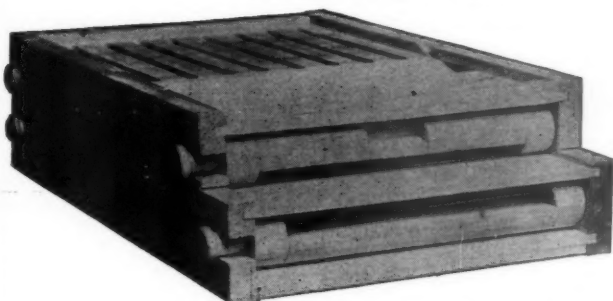
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